

DECLASSIFIED

Jul 21, 1960

MM-M-COMP 1-60

CURRENTLY USED SMOOTHING AND DIFFERENTIATION  
PROCEDURES FOR OBTAINING VELOCITIES AND  
ACCELERATIONS AND THEIR EFFECT ON DISPERSION (U)

By

Philip N. Anderson and Roger A. MacGowan

This report contains 54 ~~classified~~ <sup>UNCLASSIFIED</sup> pages.

N67-83712

FACILITY FORM 602

(ACCESSION NUMBER)

(THRU)

70

(PAGES)

70

(CODE)

TMX-59664

(NASA CR OR TMX OR AD NUMBER)

(CATEGORY)

DATA REDUCTION BRANCH  
COMPUTATION DIVISION

Arranged and Processed  
by  
PUBLICATIONS ENGINEERING SECTION  
SPACE SYSTEMS INFORMATION BRANCH

SECRET

DECLASSIFIED

#### SECURITY NOTE

*This document contains information affecting the national defense of the United States within the meaning of the Espionage Law, Title 18, U.S.C., Section 793 and 794, as amended. The transmission or revelation of its contents in any manner to an unauthorized person is prohibited by law.*

DECLASSIFIED

(U) ABSTRACT

The reasons for the selection of the smoothing and differentiation formulas, which are currently used in calculation of smooth missile positions, velocities and accelerations, are studied. The formulas are described in detail and their effect is illustrated. Approximate values of the noise level in the smooth data are provided and the magnitude of systematic error due to these procedures is estimated.

INDEX

Mathematics: abstract studies. - 27

# DECLASSIFIED

## (U) TABLE OF CONTENTS

	Page
SECTION I. INTRODUCTION . . . . .	1
SECTION II SMOOTHING AND DIFFERENTIATION PROCEDURES CURRENTLY IN USE . . . . .	1
1. Development . . . . .	1
2. Description . . . . .	3
3. Effects . . . . .	8
SECTION III CONCLUSIONS . . . . .	9

# DECLASSIFIED

## (U) LIST OF ILLUSTRATIONS

Figure		Page
1	First Pass of Program . . . . .	16
2	Second Pass of Program . . . . .	17
3	Initial Section of First Pass . . . . .	18
4	Cutoff Section of First Pass . . . . .	19
5	Final Section of First Pass . . . . .	20
6	Smooth X Velocity UDOP (0 to 200 seconds) . . . . .	21
7	Smooth Y Velocity UDOP (0 to 200 seconds) . . . . .	22
8	Smooth Z Velocity UDOP (0 to 200 seconds) . . . . .	23
9	Smooth Y Velocity UDOP (40 to 60 seconds) . . . . .	24
10	Smooth Z Velocity UDOP (100 to 120 seconds) . . . . .	25
11	Smooth X Velocity UDOP (120 to 140 seconds) . . . . .	26
12	Smooth X Velocity UDOP (150 to 170 seconds) . . . . .	27
13	Smooth Y Velocity UDOP (160 to 180 seconds) . . . . .	28
14	Smooth X Acceleration UDOP (0 to 200 seconds) . . . . .	29
15	Smooth Y Acceleration UDOP (0 to 200 seconds) . . . . .	30
16	Smooth Z Acceleration UDOP (0 to 200 seconds) . . . . .	31
17	Smooth Y Acceleration UDOP (40 to 60 seconds) . . . . .	32
18	Smooth Z Acceleration UDOP (100 to 120 seconds) . . . . .	33
19	Smooth X Acceleration UDOP (120 to 140 seconds) . . . . .	34
20	Smooth X Acceleration UDOP (150 to 170 seconds) . . . . .	35
21	Smooth Y Acceleration UDOP (160 to 180 seconds) . . . . .	36
22	Standard Deviation of Smooth X UDOP . . . . .	37
23	Standard Deviation of Smooth Y UDOP . . . . .	38
24	Standard Deviation of Smooth Z UDOP . . . . .	39

# DECLASSIFIED

## (U) LIST OF ILLUSTRATIONS (Continued)

Figure	Page
Standard Deviation of Smooth X Velocities UDOP . . . . .	40
Standard Deviation of Smooth Y Velocities UDOP . . . . .	41
Standard Deviation of Smooth Z Velocities UDOP . . . . .	42
Standard Deviation of Smooth X Accelerations UDOP . . . . .	43
Standard Deviation of Smooth Y Accelerations UDOP . . . . .	44
Standard Deviation of Smooth Z Accelerations UDOP . . . . .	45
X Position Error Due to Smoothing . . . . .	46
Y Position Error Due to Smoothing . . . . .	47
Z Position Error Due to Smoothing . . . . .	48
X Velocity Error Due to Smoothing . . . . .	49
Y Velocity Error Due to Smoothing . . . . .	50
Z Velocity Error Due to Smoothing . . . . .	51
X Acceleration Error Due to Smoothing . . . . .	52
Y Acceleration Error Due to Smoothing . . . . .	53
Z Acceleration Error Due to Smoothing . . . . .	54

# DECLASSIFIED

## (U) LIST OF SYMBOLS

$P_n$	Unsmoothed position X, Y, or Z at particular point.
$L$	Unsmoothed position X, Y, or Z at last point
$p_n$	Smoothed position X, Y, or Z
$\dot{p}_n$	Unsmoothed velocity X, Y, or Z calculated from smoothed positions.
$\ddot{p}_n$	Unsmoothed acceleration X, Y, or Z calculated from smoothed positions.
$\dot{p}_n$	Smoothed velocity X, Y, or Z calculated from smoothed positions.
$\ddot{p}_n$	Smoothed acceleration X, Y, or Z calculated from smoothed positions.
$\Delta t$	Time interval of input data.
$t_{co}$	Time of chamber pressure drop following cut-off signal
$t_{CP}$	Time of chamber pressure level-off following $T_{co}$
$t_L$	Time of last point in input data.
$T_{to}$	Missile liftoff time.
$T_0$	Time of first point in input data.

DECLASSIFIED

## SECTION I. (S) INTRODUCTION

In the analysis of missile test flights, velocities and accelerations are the bases of many other calculations. One method of determining velocities and accelerations is by numerical differentiation of position data. The position data may be obtained from one of several types of instrumentation. The data contain random errors of observation and reduction as well as systematic errors. It is usually necessary to smooth the data to obtain realistic numerical derivatives. The numerical smoothing and differentiation procedures have undergone considerable evolutionary change as a result of experience with varied instrumentation, missile systems, and flight paths. The complexity of the procedures has increased greatly. Questions have frequently arisen concerning the proper smoothing and differentiation procedures and the reasons for using these procedures. This report provides some answers by giving some insight into the general problem of smoothing and differentiation and by description of the currently used procedures.

In analyzing smoothing and differentiation procedures it is desirable to have some means of estimating the dispersion of noise in positional velocities, and accelerations. A method has been devised for doing this and is described briefly. A method is also described and applied for determining the systematic errors introduced by the smoothing and differentiation procedures.

## SECTION II. (S) SMOOTHING AND DIFFERENTIATION PROCEDURES CURRENTLY IN USE

### 1. Development

The smoothing procedures now in use in the Data Reduction E generally use moving arc smoothing formulas. In this operation a curve is fitted to an arbitrary number of points which are usually serial and at a fixed time interval and represent a segment of a time series. One or more points, usually the central point, is adjusted to conform exactly to the fitted curve. Then the curve fit formula is shifted along the time series so that one new point is added to the set and one old point at the other end of the series is removed. The fitting and adjustment procedure is then reapplied to the new set, leading to the adjustment of a point adjacent to the previously adjusted point. This procedure may be continued over a major portion of a time series. This point-by-point moving arc smoothing reduces the discontinuities due to end effects to a minimum by distributing them among all the intervals.

The early smoothing procedures employed involved unweighted polynomial approximation by least squares and orthogonal polynomial formulae. Later it was found that the smoothing formulas derived by L. S. Deder (Ref. 1) were convenient and gave superior results. The goal of a smoothing formula is to increase the smoothness of the data without excess



SECRET

increasing the adjustments necessary to achieve this smoothness. The smoothness and adjustments may be measured in terms of the magnitude of the  $n$ th order differences and the magnitude of the residuals.

The velocities and accelerations calculated by numerical differentiation frequently showed oscillations of considerable amplitude. Attenuation or reduction of these oscillations, which were considered undesirable, was required. The amplitude of these oscillations increased with an increasing degree of the smoothing formula. Thus it was not possible to use as low a degree as possible without causing gross distortion of the original data. It was found that a degree lower than first degree could not be used with the point spreads that were being considered. First degree Dederick smoothing formulas of increasing point spread were applied to actual data. In that way a high degree of local smoothness could be achieved while the data still contained very distinct oscillations of considerable amplitude. It was apparent that the oscillations could be reduced by increasing the point spread of the smoothing formula so as to encompass several oscillations. Thus the smoothing formula would not be able to follow the individual oscillations and therefore reduce their amplitudes. Our smoothing formula was modified to cover a 20-second time interval in order to accomplish this reduction in the oscillations. One-tenth of a second time steps were used with a 101 point smoothing formula. This large number of points increased the calculation time on a machine appreciable and the build-up of round-off errors might be appreciable also. The difficulty was alleviated by using a 101 point, second degree smoothing formula which used every second point in the sequence. A further improvement in the local smoothness of the velocities and accelerations was achieved by using a second pass smoothing of forty-one points and second degree

This smoothing procedure has the disadvantage of not being able to remove any physical fluctuation having a period and amplitude similar to or less than that of the oscillations. The characteristic Mach one chamber pressure is of sufficient period and amplitude to remain distinct. However, the characteristic engine cutoff pattern would be grossly distorted by this smoothing procedure. In order to preserve the characteristic engine cutoff pattern, the point spread of the smoothing was increased in steps as the time of cutoff is approached. After cutoff the point spread is increased in steps back to that of the general smoothing. Although this permits the preservation of the general characteristic pattern it leaves both noise and oscillations in the data in the vicinity of cutoff. Smoother values of accelerations are desirable for use in other calculations. Therefore a second degree polynomial is fitted to the ten seconds of acceleration data immediately preceding cutoff. This polynomial is evaluated to get smooth accelerations for the five seconds immediately preceding cutoff. Another second degree polynomial is fitted to the ten seconds of acceleration data immediately following the chamber pressure level-off following cutoff. This polynomial is evaluated to get smooth accelerations for the five seconds immediately following chamber pressure level-off.

me.

~~SECRET~~

Special procedures are also used for smoothing and differentiation at the beginning and at the end of the time series. These involve the use of shorter point spreads and asymmetric formulas

A general purpose smoothing and differentiation program utilizing Dedrick coefficients was developed in the Test Data Processing Section. This program was used in some of our studies. It was possible to select any point spread up through twenty-five and any degree up through four. A number of programs utilizing higher point spreads were prepared by Walton L. Whigham of the Test Data Processing Section for use in our studies.

Obviously the procedures could be greatly improved if the oscillations could be kept from developing. It has been discovered that some contribution to the oscillations may be due to roundoff exceeding the relative accuracy of the data. This phenomenon has been studied and reported (Ref. 2). It may be possible to eliminate this source of oscillations. It has also been established that some contribution to the oscillations is due to the smoothing of random noise. This phenomenon has also been studied and reported (Ref. 3). This latter oscillation source cannot be easily eliminated since it is due only to the randomness of the noise and the sampling rate. Other sources of oscillations in the various types of tracking instrumentation also exist.

### Description

The present smoothing and differentiation procedures are programmed for the IBM No. 709. The input to the program is trajectory position data calculated at a fixed time interval. The program consists of two main parts. In the first part the position data are smoothed and first and second derivatives are calculated at each time step using the smoothed positions. In the second part of the program the calculated velocities and accelerations are smoothed and a second degree curve fit is used to obtain smooth accelerations near cutoff time.

#### Initial equations of the first part

$$\bar{J}_0 = \bar{U}_0 = \ddot{U}_0 = 0 \quad \text{when } t_0 \leq t_{t0}$$

$$\bar{U}_0 = \frac{1}{5} (3U_0 + 2\bar{U}_1 + \bar{U}_2 - \bar{U}_4) \quad \text{when } t_0 > t_{t0} \quad (4)$$

$$\bar{J}_0 = \dot{\bar{U}}_1 - (\dot{\bar{U}}_2 - \dot{\bar{U}}_1) \quad \text{when } t_0 > t_{t0}$$

$$\bar{J}_0 = \ddot{\bar{U}}_1 - (\ddot{\bar{U}}_2 - \ddot{\bar{U}}_1) \quad \text{when } t_0 > t_{t0} \quad (5)$$

$$= \frac{1}{5} (3U_1 + 2\bar{U}_2 + \bar{U}_3 - \bar{U}_5) \quad (5)$$

~~SECRET~~

# DECLASSIFIED

$$\dot{\bar{U}}_1 = \frac{\bar{U}_2 - \bar{U}_0}{2\Delta t} \quad (6)$$

$$\ddot{\bar{U}} = \frac{\bar{U}_2 - 2\bar{U}_1 + \bar{U}_0}{\Delta t^2} \quad (7)$$

$$\bar{U}_n = \sum_{i=-2}^{+2} C_i U_{n+i} \quad (8)$$

where  $C_i$  may be found in Column A of Table 1.

$$\dot{\bar{U}} = \frac{\bar{U}_3 - \bar{U}_1}{2\Delta t} \quad (9)$$

$$\ddot{\bar{U}} = \frac{\bar{U}_3 - 2\bar{U}_2 + \bar{U}_1}{\Delta t^2} \quad (10)$$

$$\bar{U}_n = \sum_{i=-3}^{+3} C_i U_{n+i} \quad \text{when } 3 \leq n \leq 14 \quad (11)$$

where  $C_i$  may be found in Column B of Table 1.

$$\dot{\bar{U}}_n = \frac{\bar{U}_{n+1} - \bar{U}_{n-1}}{2\Delta t} \quad \text{when } 3 \leq n \leq 14 \quad (12)$$

$$\ddot{\bar{U}}_n = \frac{\bar{U}_{n+1} - 2\bar{U}_n + \bar{U}_{n-1}}{\Delta t^2} \quad \text{when } 3 \leq n \leq 14 \quad (13)$$

$$\bar{U}_n = \sum_{i=-5}^{+5} C_i U_{n+i} \quad \text{when } 15 \leq n \leq 24 \quad (14)$$

where the  $C_i$ 's may be found in Column D of Table 1.

For  $\dot{\bar{U}}_n$  and  $\ddot{\bar{U}}_n$  when  $15 \leq n \leq 24$  see Equations (12) and (13).

$$\bar{U}_n = \sum_{i=-25}^{+25} C_i U_{n+i} \quad \text{when } 25 \leq n \leq 49 \quad (15)$$

DECLASSIFIED

SECRET

where the C's may be found in Column F of Table 1.

For  $\dot{\bar{U}}_n$  and  $\ddot{\bar{U}}_n$  when  $25 \leq n \leq 49$  see Equations (12) and (13).

$$\bar{U} = \sum_{i=-50}^{+50} C_i U_{n+i} \quad \text{when } 50 \leq n \leq 99 \quad (16)$$

where the C's may be found in Column G of Table 1.

For  $\dot{\bar{U}}_n$  and  $\ddot{\bar{U}}_n$  when  $50 \leq n \leq 99$  see Equations (12) and (13).

b. General equations of the first part

$$\bar{U} = \sum_{i=-50}^{+50} C_i U_{n+2i} \quad \text{when } 100 \leq n \leq (t_{co} - 101 \Delta t) \quad (17)$$

where the C's may be found in Column G of Table 1.

$$\bar{U} = \frac{\bar{U}_{n+2} - \bar{U}_{n-2}}{4\Delta t} \quad (18)$$

$$\bar{U} = \frac{\bar{U}_{n+2} - 2\bar{U}_n + \bar{U}_{n-2}}{2\Delta t^2} \quad (19)$$

c. Cutoff equations of the first part

For  $\bar{U}_n$ ,  $\dot{\bar{U}}_n$ ,  $\ddot{\bar{U}}_n$ :

when  $t_{co} - 100 \Delta t \leq n \leq t_{co} - 51 \Delta t$  see Equations (16), (12) (1)

when  $t_{co} - 50 \Delta t \leq n \leq t_{co} - 26 \Delta t$  see Equations (15), (12), (13)

$$\bar{U}_n = \sum_{i=-10}^{+10} C_i U_{n+i} \quad \text{when } t_{co} - 25 \Delta t \leq n \leq t_{co} + 25 \Delta t \quad (20)$$

where the C's may be found in Column C of Table 1.

For  $\dot{\bar{U}}_n$ ,  $\ddot{\bar{U}}_n$  when  $t_{co} - 25 \Delta t \leq n \leq t_{co} + 25 \Delta t$  see Equations (12), (13)

SECRET

DECLASSIFIED

For  $\bar{U}_n$ ,  $\dot{\bar{U}}_n$ ,  $\ddot{\bar{U}}_n$ :

when  $t_{co} + 26 \Delta t \leq n \leq t_{co} + 50 \Delta t$  see Equations (15), (12), (13),

when  $t_{co} + 51 \Delta t \leq n \leq t_{co} + 100 \Delta t$  see Equations (16), (12), (13),

when  $t_{co} + 101 \Delta t \leq n \leq t_L - 100 \Delta t$  see Equations (17), (18), (19).

#### Terminal equations of the first part

For  $\bar{U}_n$ ,  $\dot{\bar{U}}_n$ ,  $\ddot{\bar{U}}_n$ :

when  $t_L - 99 \Delta t \leq n \leq t_L - 50 \Delta t$  see Equations (16), (12), (13),

when  $t_L - 49 \Delta t \leq n \leq t_L - 25 \Delta t$  see Equations (15), (12), (13),

when  $t_L - 24 \Delta t \leq n \leq t_L - 15 \Delta t$  see Equations (14), (12), (13),

when  $t_L - 14 \Delta t \leq n \leq t_L - 3 \Delta t$  see Equations (11), (12), (13).

$$\bar{U}_n = \sum_{i=-2}^{+2} C_i U_{L-2+i} \quad (21)$$

where  $C_i$  may be found in Column A of Table 1.

$$\dot{\bar{U}}_n = \frac{\bar{U}_{L-1} - \bar{U}_{L-3}}{2\Delta t} \quad (22)$$

$$\ddot{\bar{U}}_n = \frac{\bar{U}_{L-1} - 2\bar{U}_{L-2} + \bar{U}_{L-3}}{\Delta t^2} \quad (23)$$

$$\bar{U}_1 = \frac{1}{5} (3\bar{U}_{L-1} + 2\bar{U}_{L-2} + \bar{U}_{L-3} - \bar{U}_{L-5}) \quad (24)$$

$$\dot{\bar{U}}_1 = \frac{\bar{U}_L - \bar{U}_{L-2}}{2\Delta t} \quad (25)$$

$$\ddot{\bar{U}}_1 = \frac{\bar{U}_L - 2\bar{U}_{L-1} + \bar{U}_{L-2}}{\Delta t^2} \quad (26)$$

DECLASSIFIED

~~SECRET~~

$$\bar{U}_L = \frac{1}{5} (3\bar{U}_L + 2\bar{U}_{L-1} + \bar{U}_{L-2} - \bar{U}_{L-4}) \quad (27)$$

$$\bar{U}_L = \frac{1}{12\Delta t} (3\bar{U}_{L-4} - 6\bar{U}_{L-3} + 36\bar{U}_{L-2} - 48\bar{U}_{L-1} + 25\bar{U}_L) \quad (28)$$

$$\bar{U}_L = \frac{1}{12\Delta t^2} (11\bar{U}_{L-4} - 56\bar{U}_{L-3} + 114\bar{U}_{L-2} - 104\bar{U}_{L-1} + 35\bar{U}_L) \quad (29)$$

discontinuities exist in the smooth data at the junction points between the different smoothing formulas. These discontinuities result in very wild derivatives at these points. Special treatment was necessary at these changeover points when seven point spread smoothing or greater was used. A maximum of four points of velocity and acceleration were replaced at each junction. These replacements were based on a second degree curve fit through the previous seven points of velocity and acceleration. The method of least squares was used for the curve.

e. Junction point replacement equations

$$v = A_0 + A_1 t + A_2 t^2$$

$$a_n = B_0 + B_1 t + B_2 t^2$$

where  $A_0, A_1, A_2, B_0, B_1, B_2$  are the coefficients obtained by the above mentioned least squares curve fits.

f. General equations of the second part

$$\ddot{\bar{U}}_n = \sum_{i=-20}^{+20} C_i \ddot{\bar{U}}_{n+i} \quad \begin{array}{l} \text{when } 20 \leq n \leq t_{co} - 51 \Delta t \text{ and} \\ \text{when } t_{CPL} + 51 \Delta t \leq n \leq t_L - 20 \Delta t \end{array} \quad (32)$$

where C's may be found in Column E of Table 1.

$$\ddot{\bar{U}}_n = \sum_{i=-20}^{+20} C_i \ddot{\bar{U}}_{n+i} \quad \begin{array}{l} \text{when } 20 \leq n \leq t_{co} - 51 \Delta t \text{ and} \\ \text{when } t_{CPL} + 51 \Delta t \leq n \leq t_L - 20 \Delta t \end{array}$$

where C's may be found in Column E of Table 1.

g. Cutoff equation of the second part

$$\ddot{\bar{U}}_n = A_0 + A_1 t + A_2 t^2 \quad \text{when } t_{co} - 50 \Delta t \leq n \leq t_{co} \quad (34)$$

~~SECRET~~

SECRET

This second degree curve fit is obtained by applying the method of least squares to the one hundred points preceding  $t_{CO}$ .

$$t = B_0 + B_1 t \quad \text{when } t_{CPL} \leq n \leq t_{CPL} + 50 \Delta t \quad (35)$$

This second degree curve fit is obtained by applying the method of least squares to the one hundred points following  $t_{CPL}$ .

The actual calculations in the program are carried out in two distinct passes through the data. The smoothing of the positions and the calculation of velocities and accelerations are done in the first pass. The application of the various formulas of the first pass to particular parts of the trajectory is summarized in Figure 1. Details of the application of the smoothing formulas in the first pass are illustrated in Figures 3 through 5.

The smoothing of velocities and accelerations and the curve fitting of accelerations in the vicinity of cutoff are done in the second pass. The application of the various formulas of the second pass to the particular parts of the trajectory is summarized in Figure 2.

### Effects

The significant factor concerning these smoothing and differentiation procedures is their effectiveness in producing smooth and realistic velocity and acceleration data. Figures 6 through 8 show velocities which were calculated by the current smoothing and differentiation program. The data used in the calculations were at a one-tenth second time interval whereas the data used in the graphs were selected at one second time intervals. Figures 9 through 13 show segments of the velocity data on a smaller scale in order to illustrate effectively the local smoothness. These data are at the one-tenth second time interval which was used in the calculations. Figures 14 through 16 show accelerations which were calculated by the current smoothing and differentiation program. The data used in the calculations were at one-tenth second time interval whereas the data used in the graphs were selected at one-second time intervals. Figures 17 through 21 show segments of the acceleration data on a smaller scale in order to illustrate effectively the local smoothness. These data are at the one-tenth second time interval which was used in the calculations.

It will be noted that some problem areas remain in these procedures. The discontinuities in accelerations at the end points of the curve fit data preceding and following cutoff represent a difficulty which needs further improvement. The noise and oscillations which remain in the acceleration data for the period of thrust decay represent another problem area. These difficulties are clearly manifested in Figures 20 and 21 and will be eliminated as time permits.

SECRET

DECLASSIFIED

It is sometimes desirable to have a quantitative measure of the dispersion of the noise in order to compare the relative merits of different smoothing techniques. In order to estimate the dispersion of noise in our positions, velocities and acceleration a curve fitting program was used to fit these smooth data at successive time intervals. A second degree polynomial was fitted to each ten-second interval and residuals were calculated. The standard deviation of the residuals was calculated for each interval. It was assumed that the second degree polynomial was capable of following the general trend of the data over most of the ten-second intervals. It was also assumed that the second-degree polynomial was not capable of following the noise or other minor fluctuations in a ten-second interval. Therefore the standard deviation of the residuals should be a fair estimate of the noise level of the smoothed data. Figures 22 through 30 show these calculated standard deviations for the smoothed positions, velocities and accelerations. Generally the noise level in smooth UDOP positions is less than 2.0 meters, in smooth UDOP velocities is less than .07 meter per second, and in smooth UDOP accelerations is less than .02 meter per second per second.

The achievement of smoothness is of little value if it is attained at the expense of gross distortion of the original data. It would certainly not be feasible to use smoothing formulas which regularly introduced systematic errors which exceed the noise level of the smoothed data. It was therefore desirable to determine the magnitude of systematic errors produced by our current smoothing and differentiation procedures. A synthetic trajectory program was used to generate smooth positions, velocities and accelerations representative of a typical missile flight. These smooth positions were then used as input to our current smoothing and differentiation program. These smoothed positions, velocities and accelerations were then differenced with the smooth positions, velocities and accelerations generated by the synthetic trajectory. The differences indicate systematic errors introduced by the smoothing and differentiation program. Figures 31 through 39 show these differences. As might be expected the differences only become appreciable at times of radical physical change such as main engine cutoff (157.77 seconds), vernier engine ignition (166.28 seconds), and vernier engine cutoff (176.29 seconds).

### SECTION III (S) CONCLUSIONS

It may be concluded that the current smoothing and differentiation procedures are satisfactory for most parts of a typical missile test flight and for typical tracking instrumentation. The exceptions are the times of rapid physical change such as main engine cutoff, vernier engine ignition, and vernier engine cutoff. The attainment of equivalent accuracy at these times requires additional observation and special treatment. Investigation of these possibilities will proceed as time permits.



DECLASSIFIED

The noise level in the smooth UDOP positions is generally less than 2.0 meters. In the smooth UDOP velocities the noise level is generally less than .07 meter per second and in the smooth UDOP accelerations is generally less than .02 meter per second per second. The systematic errors introduced by the smoothing and differentiation procedures are generally less than the noise levels of the smooth data.

# GENERAL FEDERICK COEFFICIENTS

i	C <sub>i</sub>					
	A	B	C	D	E	F
-50						-.00002743
-49						-.00010058
-48						-.00022983
-47						-.00041900
-46						-.00066634
-45						-.00096567
-44						-.00130722
-43						-.00167849
-42						-.00206506
-41						-.00245117
-40						-.00282041
-39						-.00315619
-38						-.00344223
-37						-.00366293
-36						-.00380373
-35						-.00385142
-34						-.00379429
-33						-.00362241
-32						-.00332768
-31						-.00290399
-30						-.00234725
-29						-.00165542
-28						-.00082850
-27						.00013152
-26						.00122070
-25						.00243325
-24						.00376162
-23						.00519666

C <sub>1</sub>						
i	A	B	C	E	F	G
-22					-.00363836	.00672771
-21					-.00508725	.00834281
-20				-.00068479	-.00635536	.01002880
-19				-.00217926	-.00721713	.01177154
-18				-.00424676	-.00746965	.01355607
-17				-.00644783	-.00694741	.01536680
-16				-.00826372	-.00553229	.01718766
-15				-.00918903	-.00315853	.01900233
-14				-.00879756	.00018451	.02079439
-13				-.00678499	.00445470	.02254753
-12				-.00299216	.00956047	.02424568
-11				.00258781	.01536678	.02587324
-10			-.00557029	.00981543	.02170263	.02741519
-9			-.01345481	.01842084	.02836945	.02885725
-8			-.01761357	.00886228	.02802735	.03018606
-7			-.01289565	.02287915	.03515033	.03138929
-6			.00311907	.03914878	.04111938	.03245574
-5			.02962788	.05637424	.05392963	.0337550
-4			.06303804	.07311382	.05895644	.03414001
-3		-.05874125	.09795617	.07418899	.06305848	.03474215
-2	-.07342657	.05874125	.12842263	.0954972	.06609416	.03517629
-1	.29370629	.29370629	.14913596	.10695119	.06795860	.03543841
0	.55944055	.41258741	.15646914	.0749229	.06858732	.03552606
+1	.29370629	.29370629	.14913596	.10695119	.06795860	.03543841
+2	-.07342657	.05874125	.12842263	.0954972	.06609416	.03517629
+3		-.05874125	.09795617	.07418899	.06305848	.03474215
+4			.06303804	.07311382	.05895644	.03414001
+5			.02962788	.05637424	.05392963	.0337550
+6			.01345481	.01842084	.02836945	.03245574
+7			.00557029	.00981543	.02170263	.03138929

TABLE 1 (Continued)

I	C <sub>1</sub>					
	A	B	C	D	E	G
+8			-.01761357	.00886228	.02802735	.03515033
+9			-.01345481	-.00189905	.01842084	.02836945
+10			-.00557029	-.00882682	.00981543	.02170263
+11				-.01186182	.00258781	.01536678
+12				-.01150094	-.00299216	.00956047
+13				-.00875514	-.00678499	.00445470
+14				-.00500293	-.00879756	.00018451
+15				-.00171211	-.00918903	-.00315853
+16					-.00826372	-.00553220
+17					-.00644783	-.00694741
+18					-.00424676	-.00746965
+19					-.00217926	-.00721713
+20					-.00068479	-.00635536
+21						-.00508725
+22						-.00363836
+23						-.00223633
+24						-.00108383
+25						-.00032438
+26						.00122070
+27						.00013152
+28						-.00082850
+29						-.00165542
+30						-.00234725
+31						-.00290399
+32						-.00332768
+33						-.00362241
+34						-.00379429
+35						-.00385142
+36						-.00380373

[illegible]

DECLASSIFIED

(U) REFERENCES

- 1 Dederick, L. S., Construction and Selection of Smoothing Formulas. Report No. 863, Ballistic Research Laboratories; Aberdeen Proving Ground, Maryland. 1953
2. Beard, L. Neel and MacGowan, Roger A., Oscillations In Tracking Data Resulting from Roundoff. Report No. DC-TR-1-60, Army Ballistic Missile Agency, Computation Laboratory; Redstone Arsenal, Alabama. 1960
3. Beard, L. Neel and MacGowan, Roger A., Oscillatory Phenomena In Empirical Data Resulting from the Smoothing of Random Noise. Report No. DC-TR-3-60, Army Ballistic Missile Agency, Computation Laboratory; Redstone Arsenal, Alabama. 1960

# POSITIONS

7	31	51	101	101	101	51	21	51	101	101	101	51	31	7
PT	PT	PT	PT	PT	PT	PT	PT	PT	PT	PT	PT	PT	PT	PT
SM	SM	SM	SM	SM	SM	SM	SM	SM	SM	SM	SM	SM	SM	SM

# VELOCITIES & ACCELERATIONS

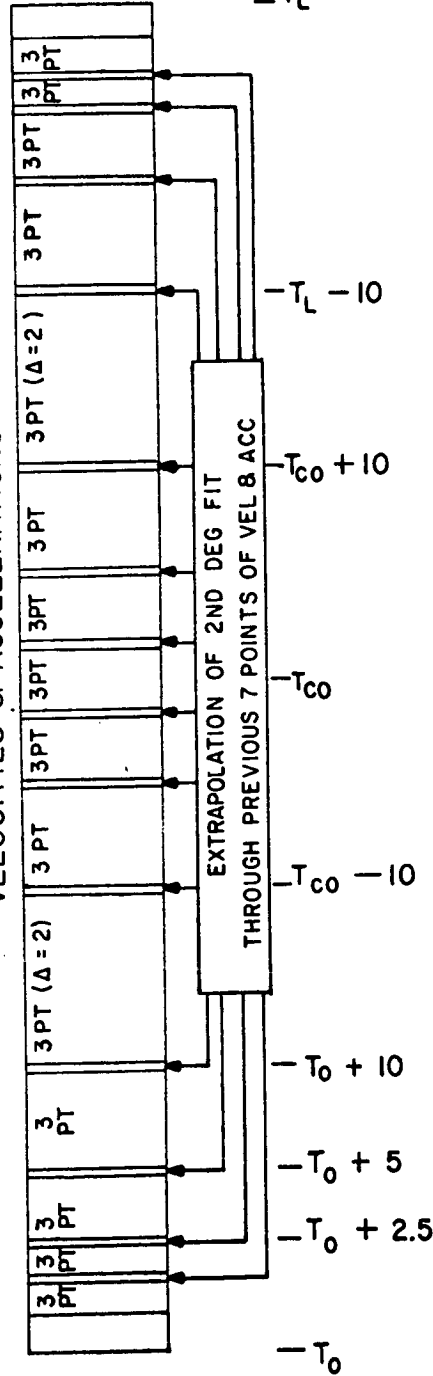


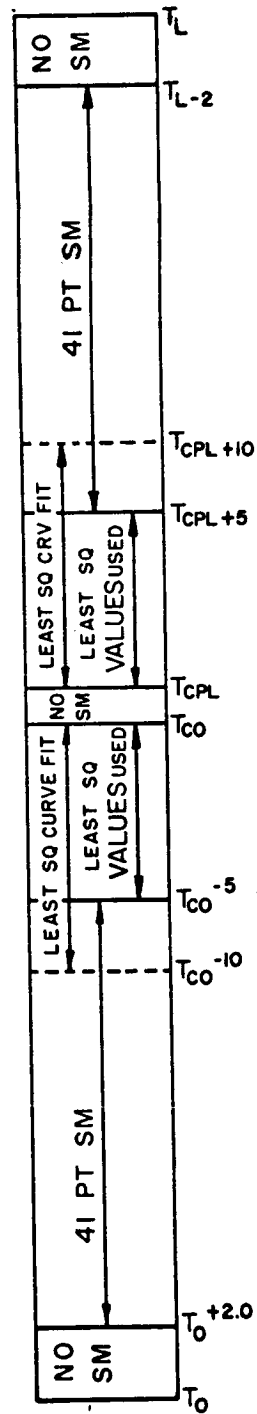
FIG.1 - FIRST PASS OF PROGRAM

POSITIONS  
NO CHANGE

VELOCITIES

NO SM	41 PT SM	NO SM	41 PT SM	NO SM
----------	----------	-------	----------	----------

ACCELERATIONS



RELATIVE TIME

FIG. 2 - SECOND PASS OF PROGRAM



DECLASSIFIED

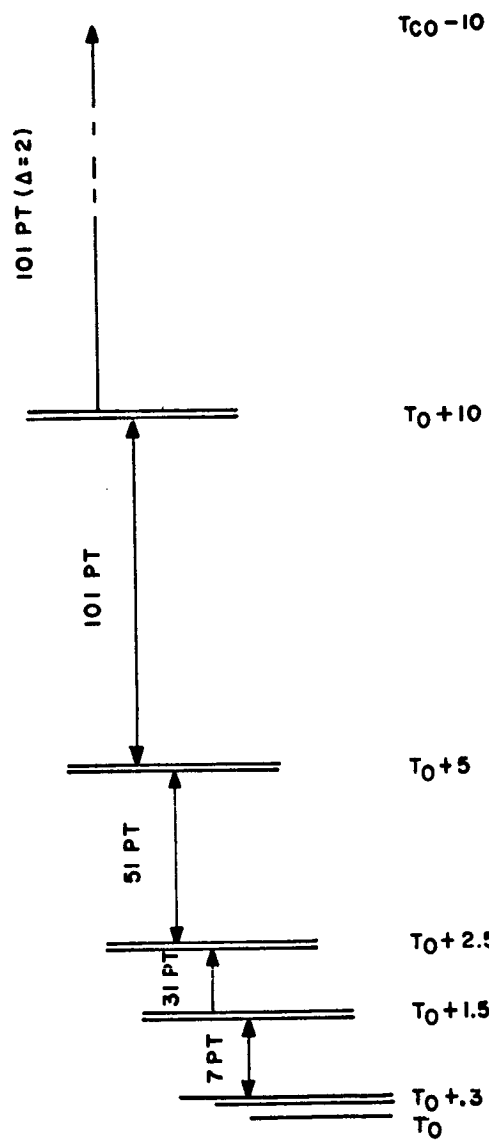


FIG. 3. INITIAL SECTION OF FIRST PASS

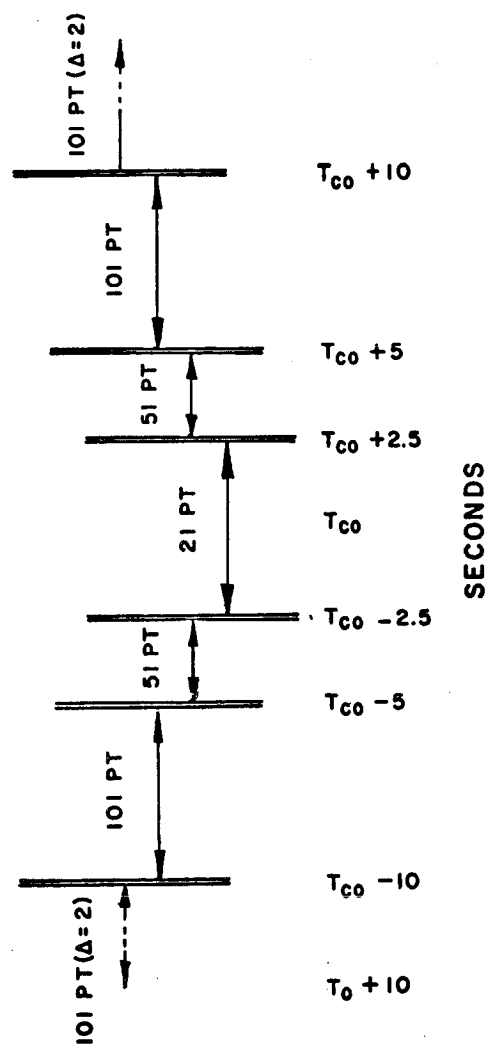


FIG. 4. CUTOFF SECTION OF FIRST PASS

DECLASSIFIED

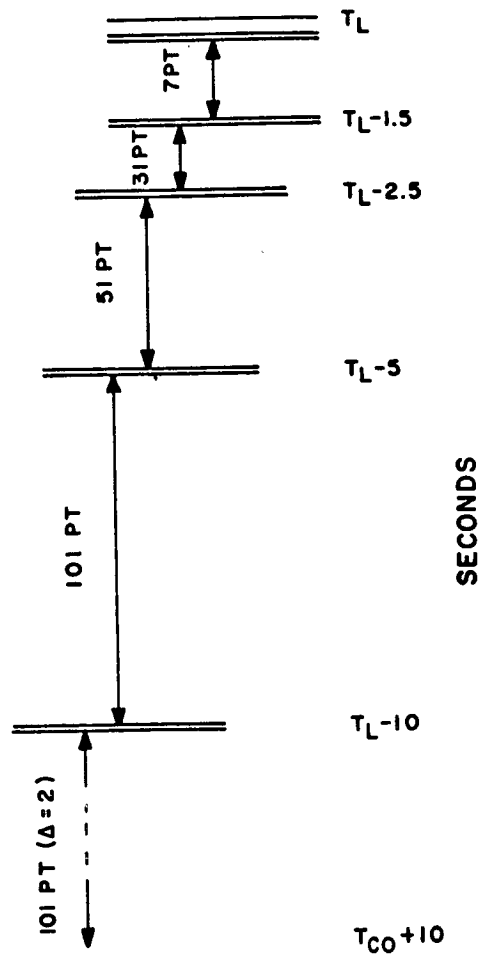


FIG. 5. FINAL SECTION OF FIRST PASS

SECRET

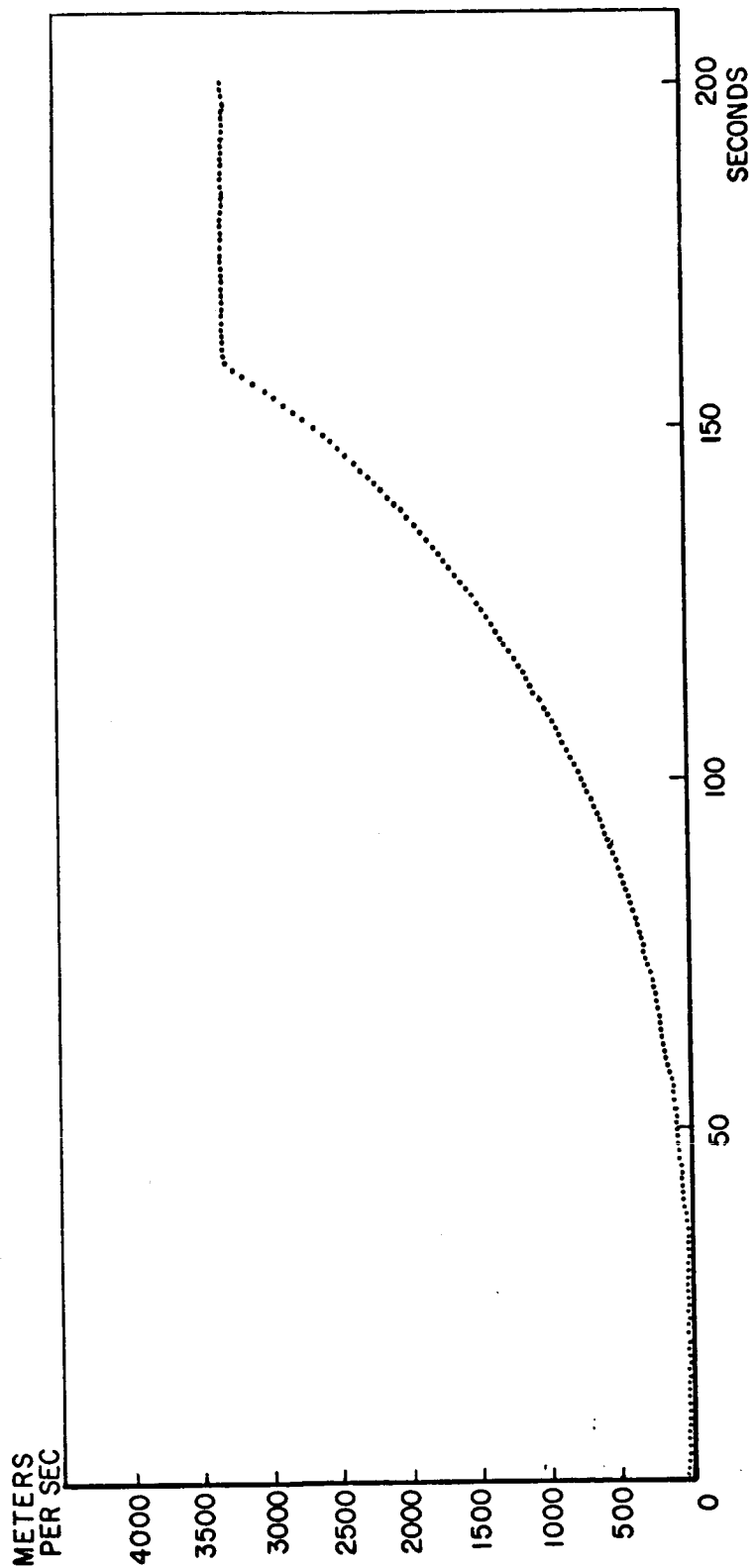


FIG 6. SMOOTH X VELOCITY UDOP ( 0 to 200 sec )

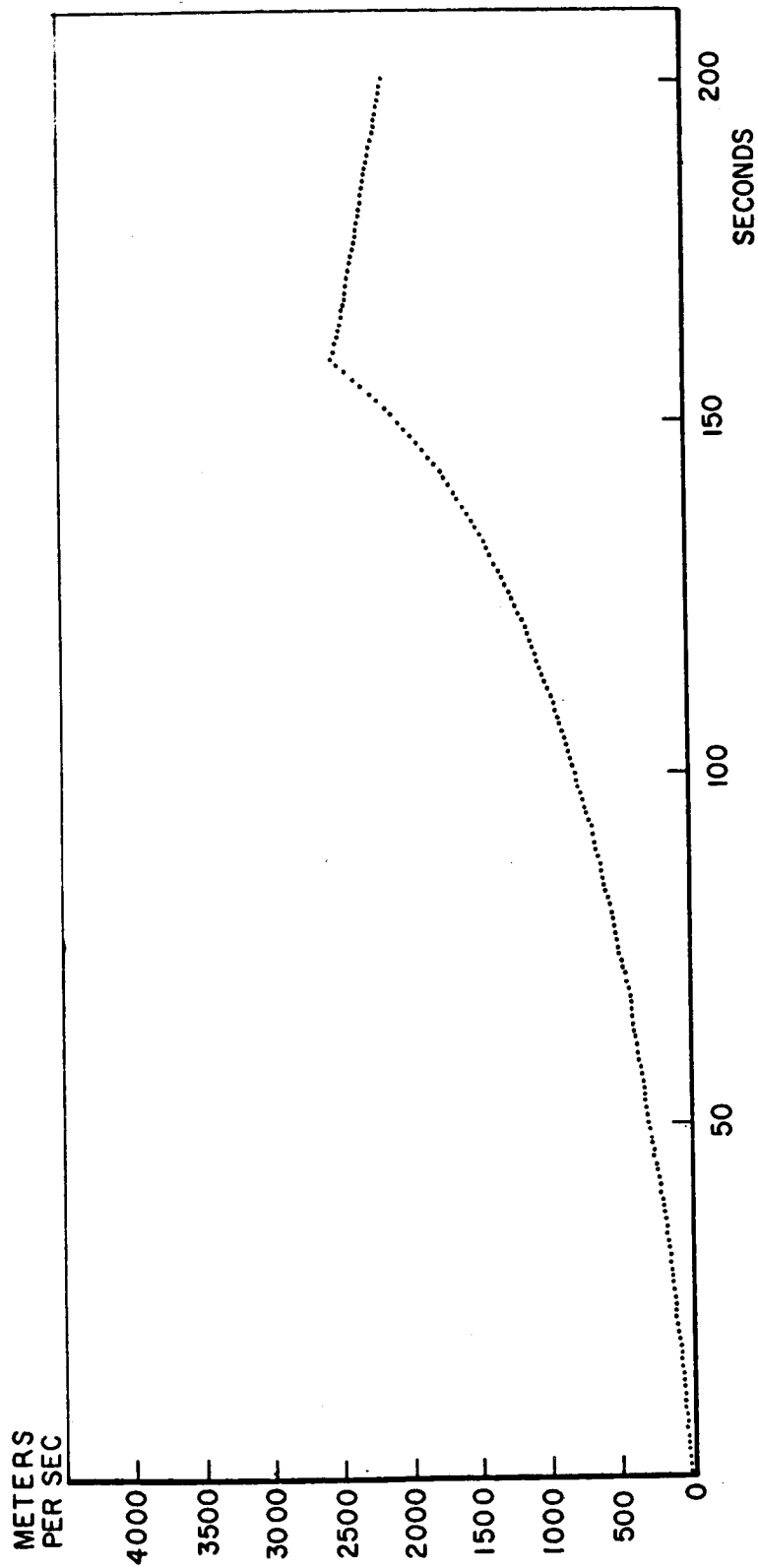


FIG 7. SMOOTH Y VELOCITY UDOP (0 to 200 sec)

METERS PER SEC.

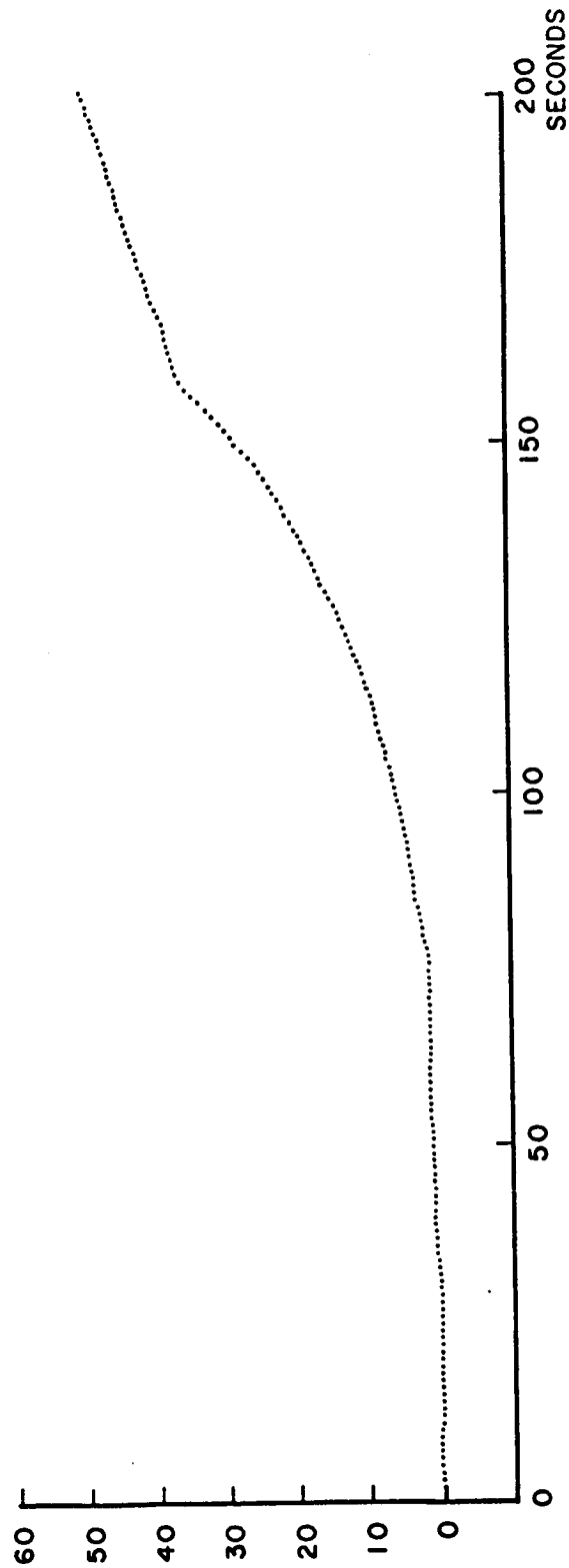


FIG. 8. SMOOTH Z VELOCITY UDOP (0 TO 200 SECONDS)

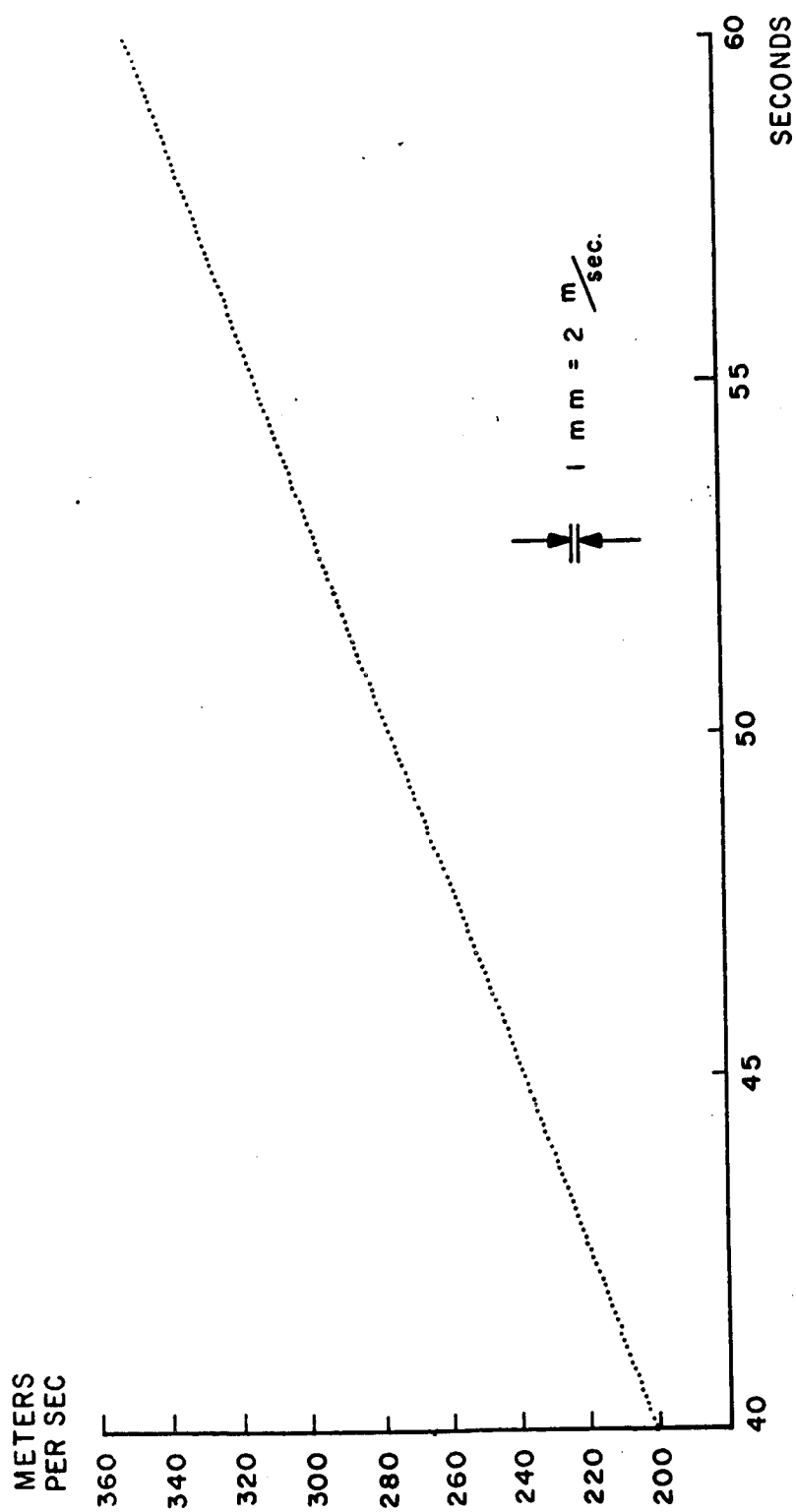


FIG. 9. SMOOTH Y VELOCITY UDOP (40 TO 60 SECONDS)

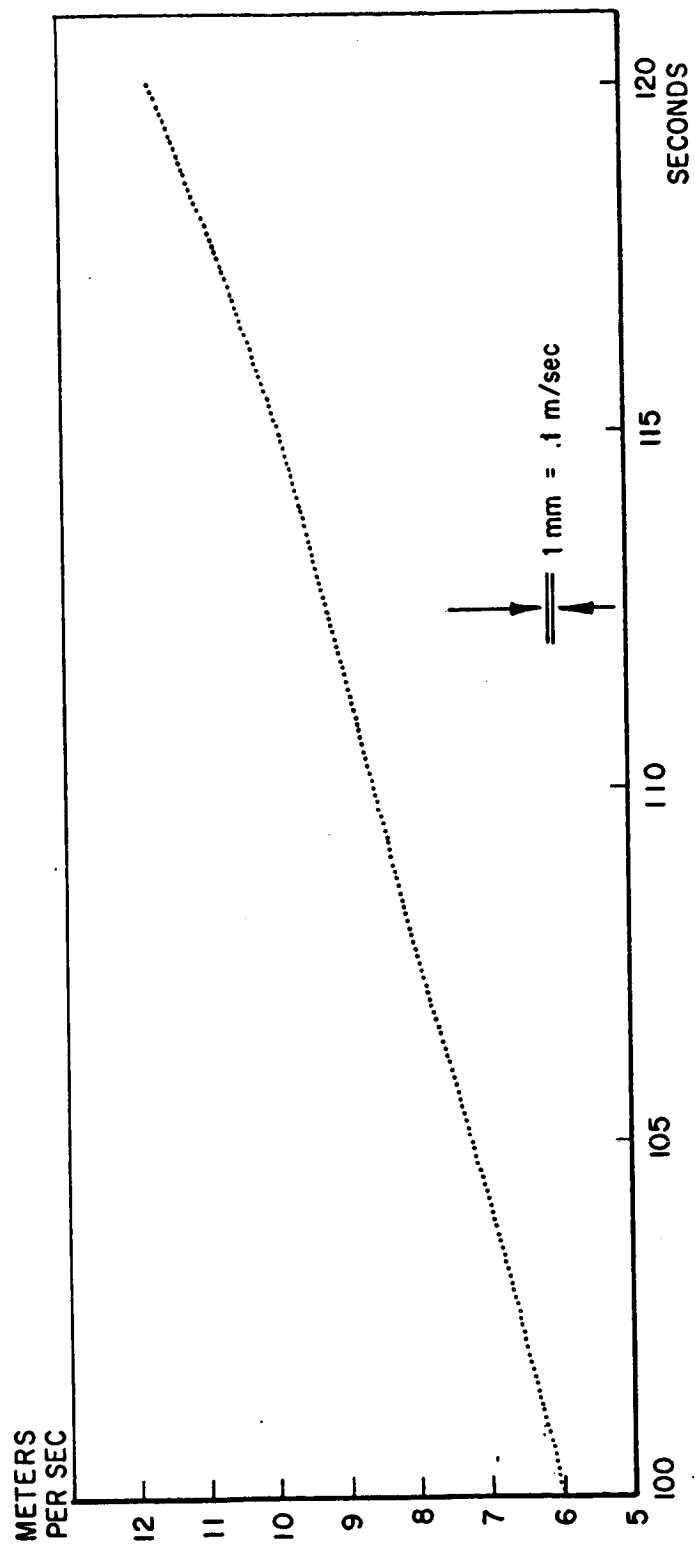


FIG 10. SMOOTH Z VELOCITY UDOP (100 to 120 sec)



SECRET

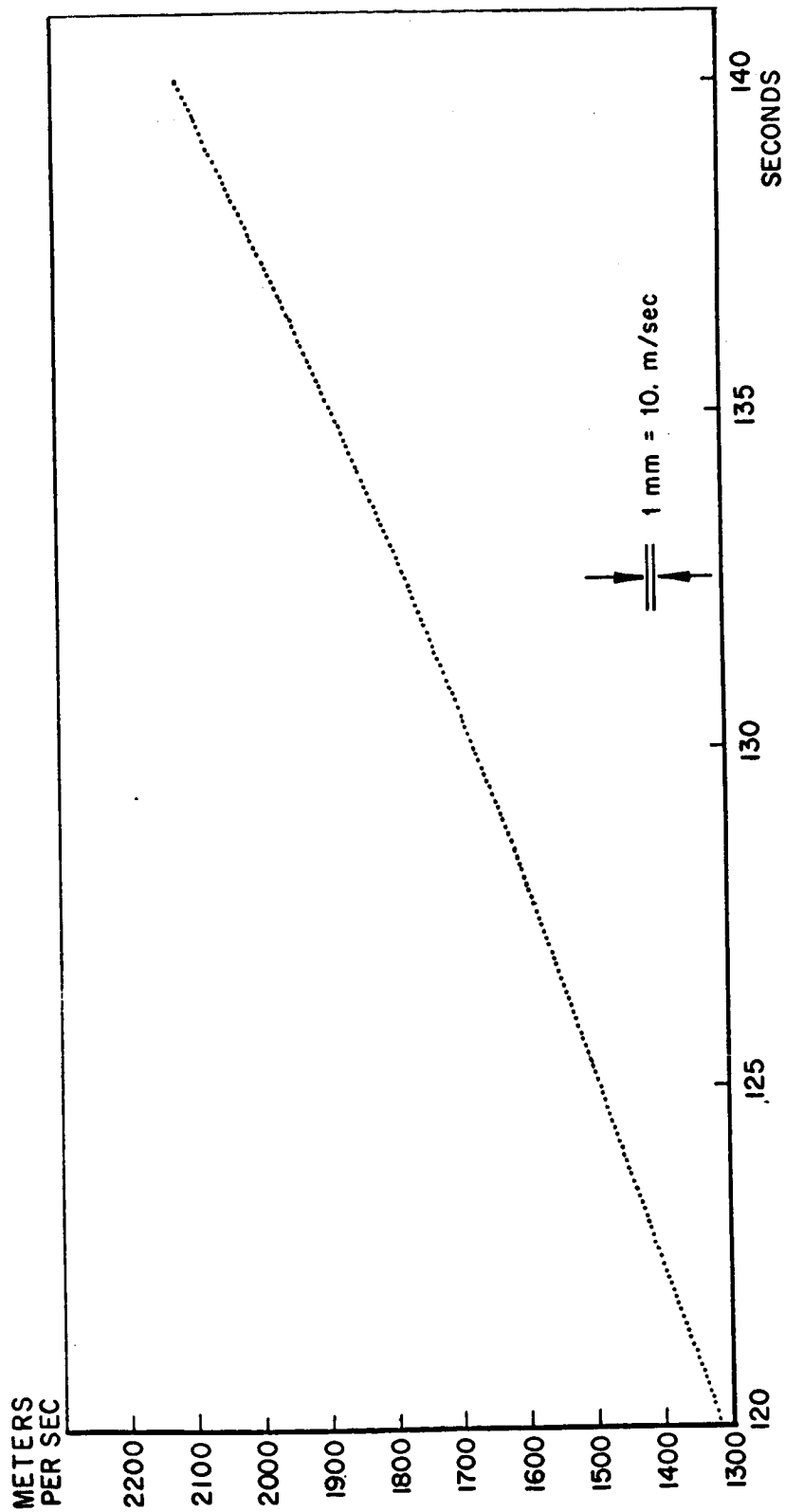


FIG 11. SMOOTH X VELOCITY UDOP (120 to 140 sec)

SECRET

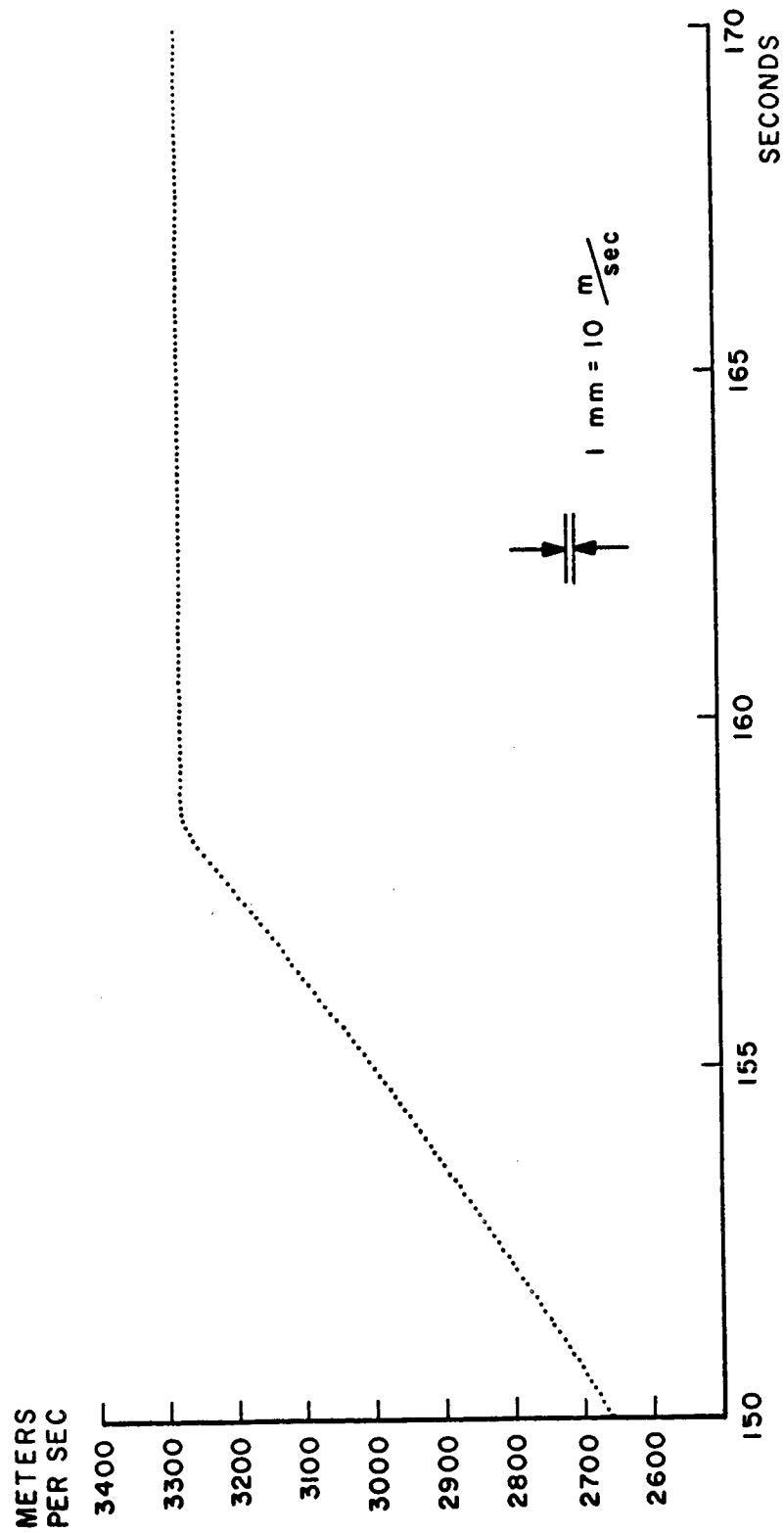


FIG. 12. SMOOTH X VELOCITY UDOP (150 TO 170 SECONDS)

METERS PER SEC.

2500  
2475  
2450  
2425  
2400  
2375  
2350  
2325  
2300

160

165

170

175

180  
SECONDS

$\frac{1 \text{ mm}}{2.5 \text{ m/sec}}$

FIG. 13. SMOOTH Y VELOCITY UDOP (160 TO 180 SECONDS)

DECLASSIFIED

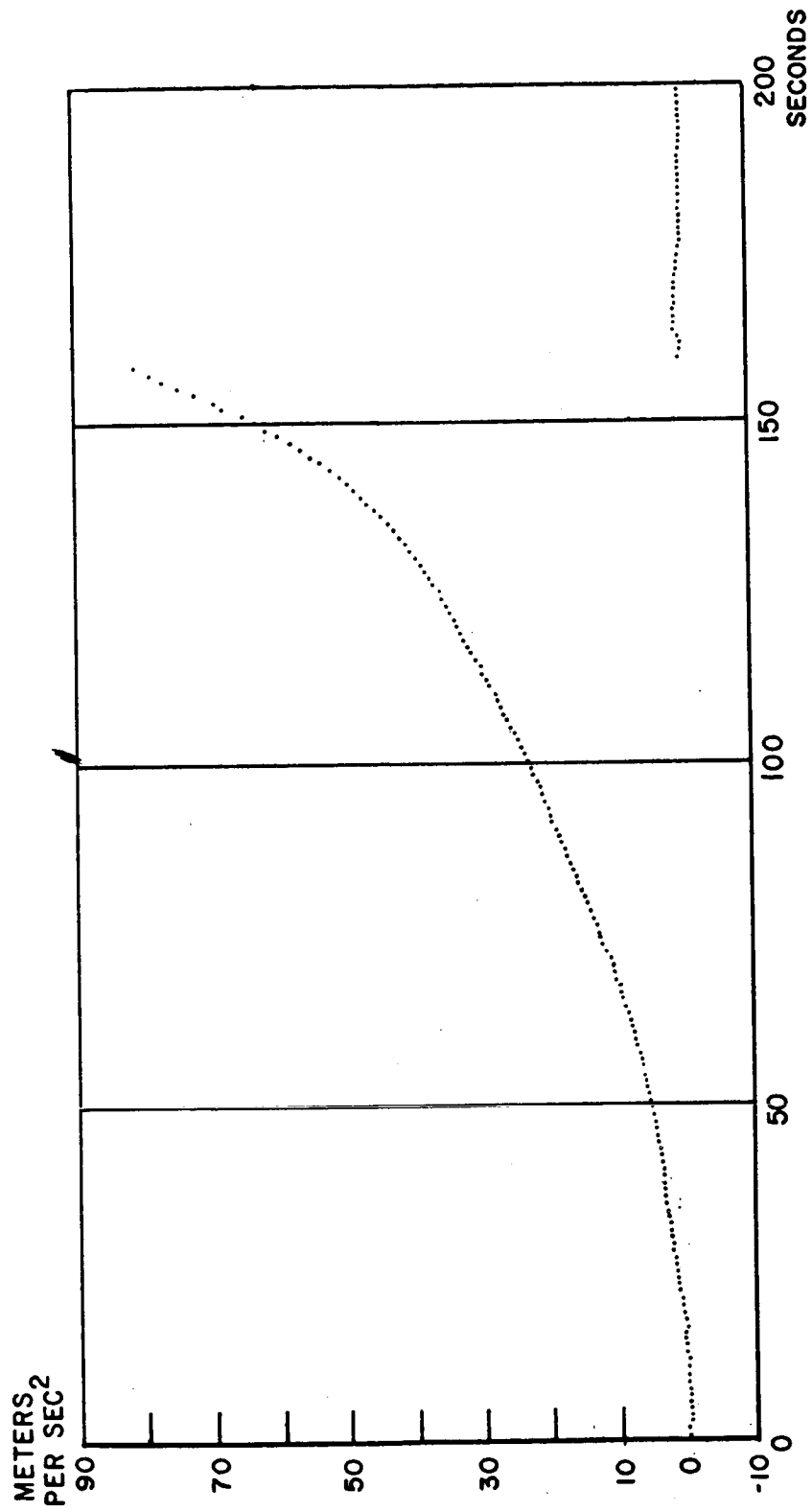


FIG 14 SMOOTH X ACCELERATION UDOP (0 TO 200 SECONDS)

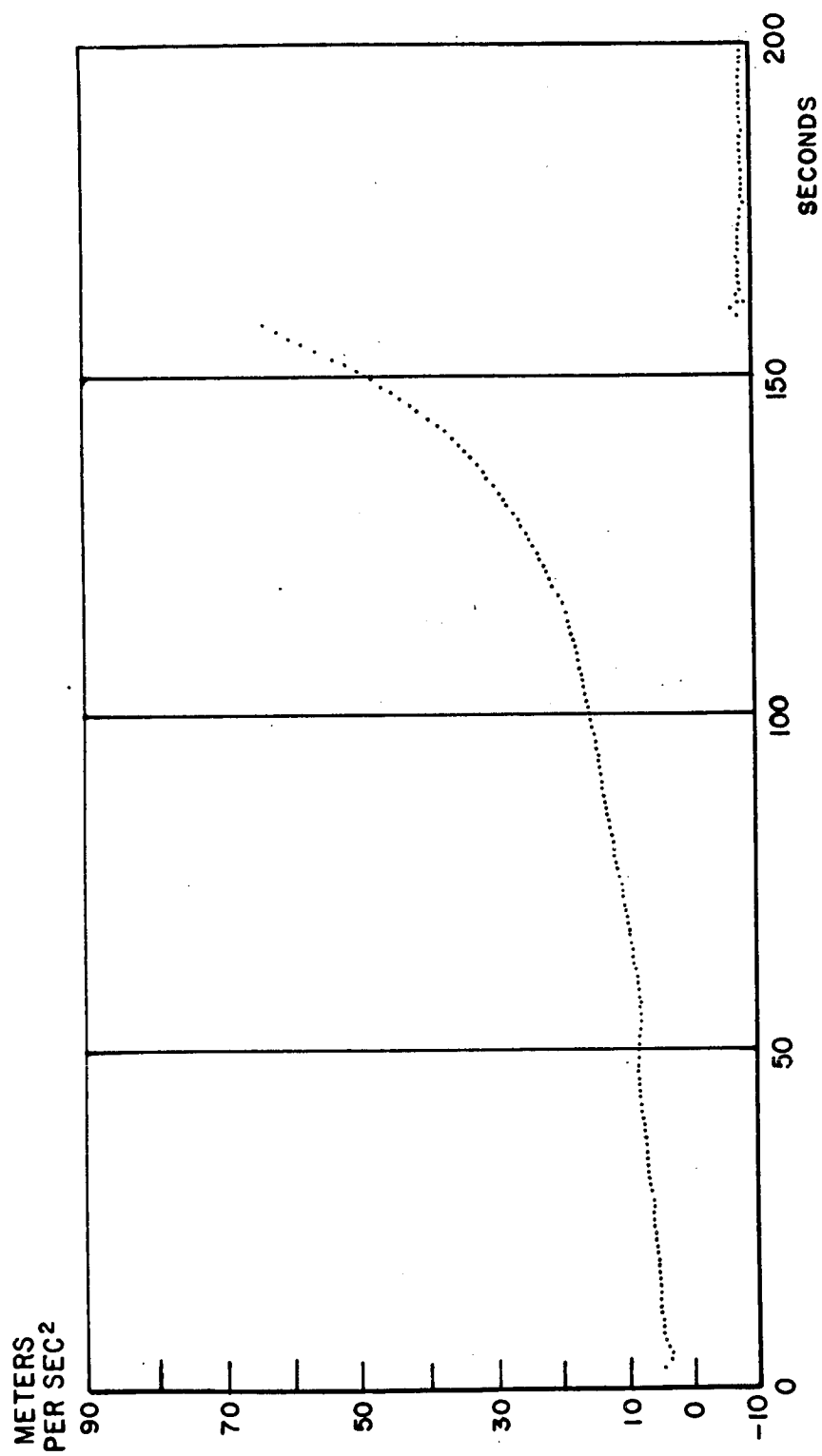


FIG 15 "SMOOTH Y ACCELERATION UDOP (0 TO 200 SECONDS)

REF ID: A66541

REF ID: A66815

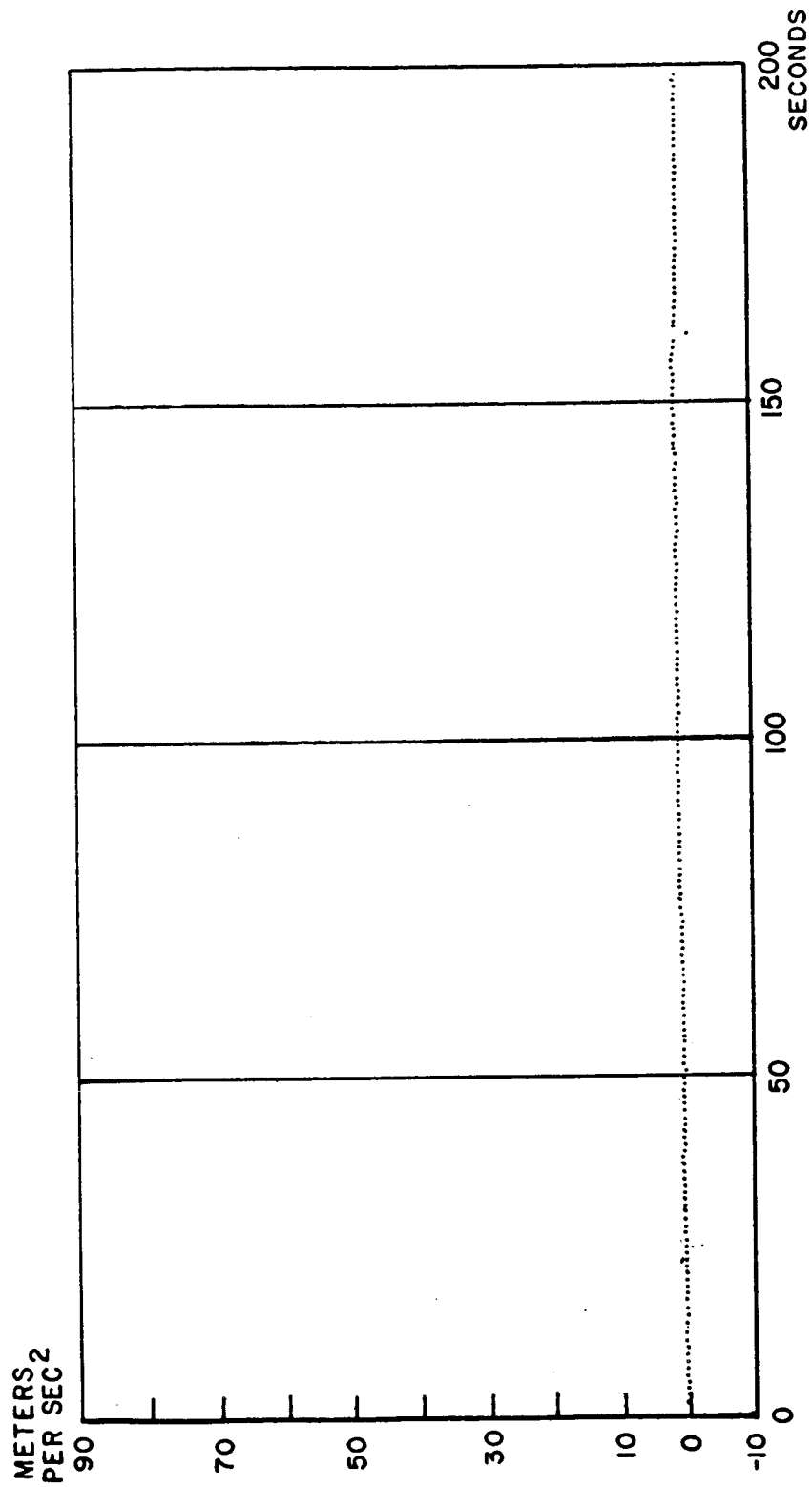


FIG 16 SMOOTH Z ACCELERATION UDOP (0 TO 200 SECONDS)

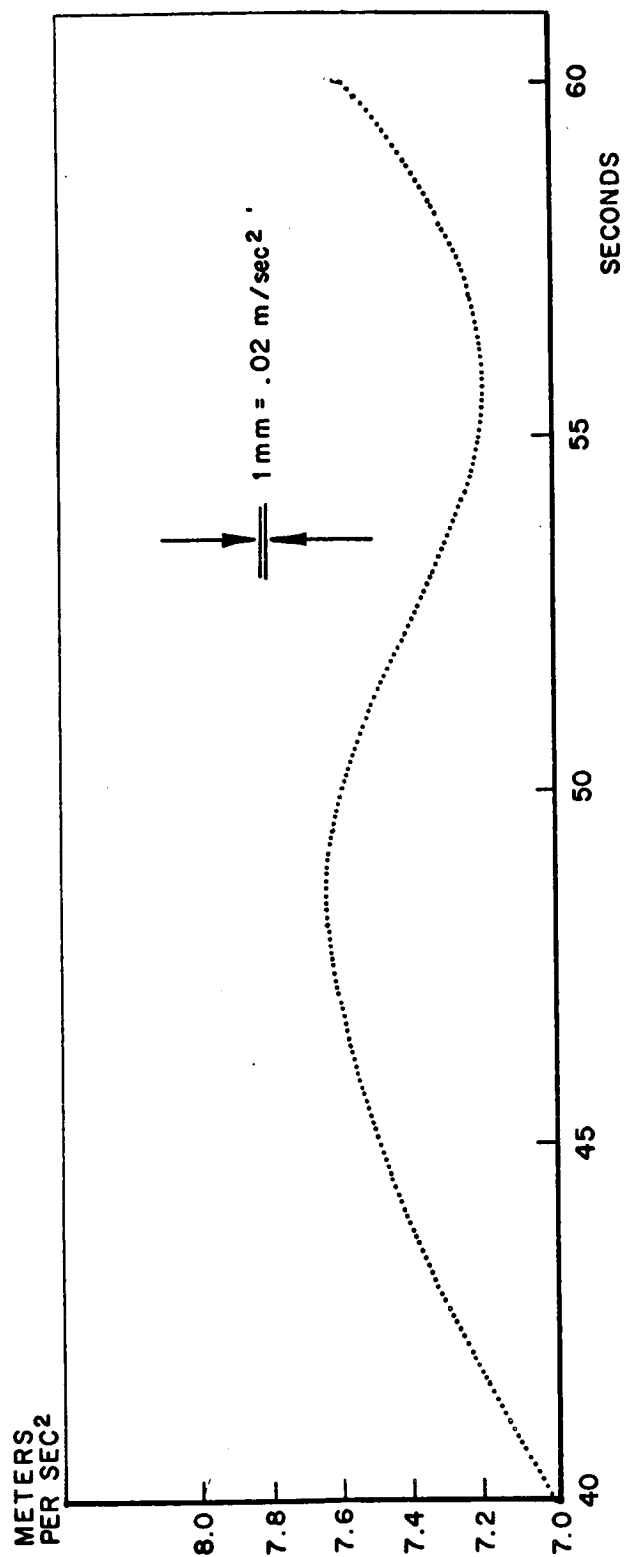


FIG 17. SMOOTH Y ACCELERATION UDOP (40 to 60 sec)

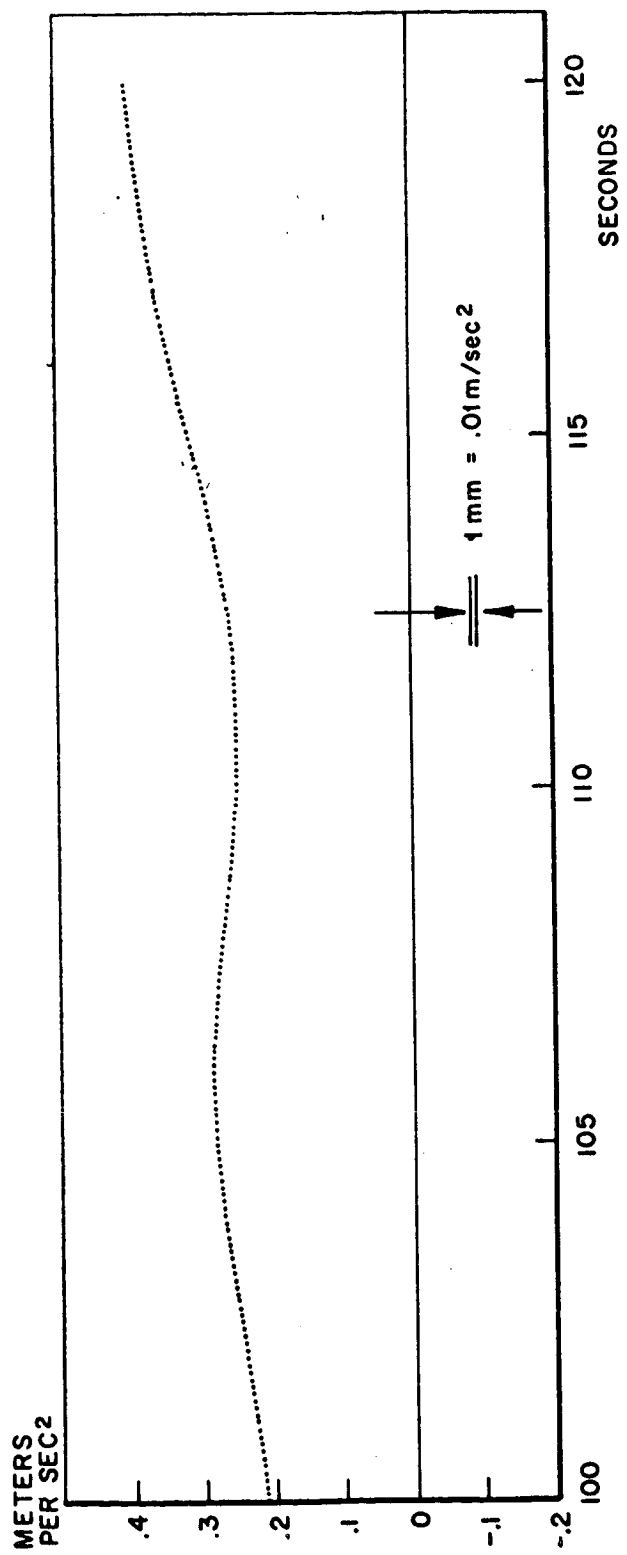


FIG 18. SMOOTH Z ACCELERATION UDOP (100 to 120 sec)



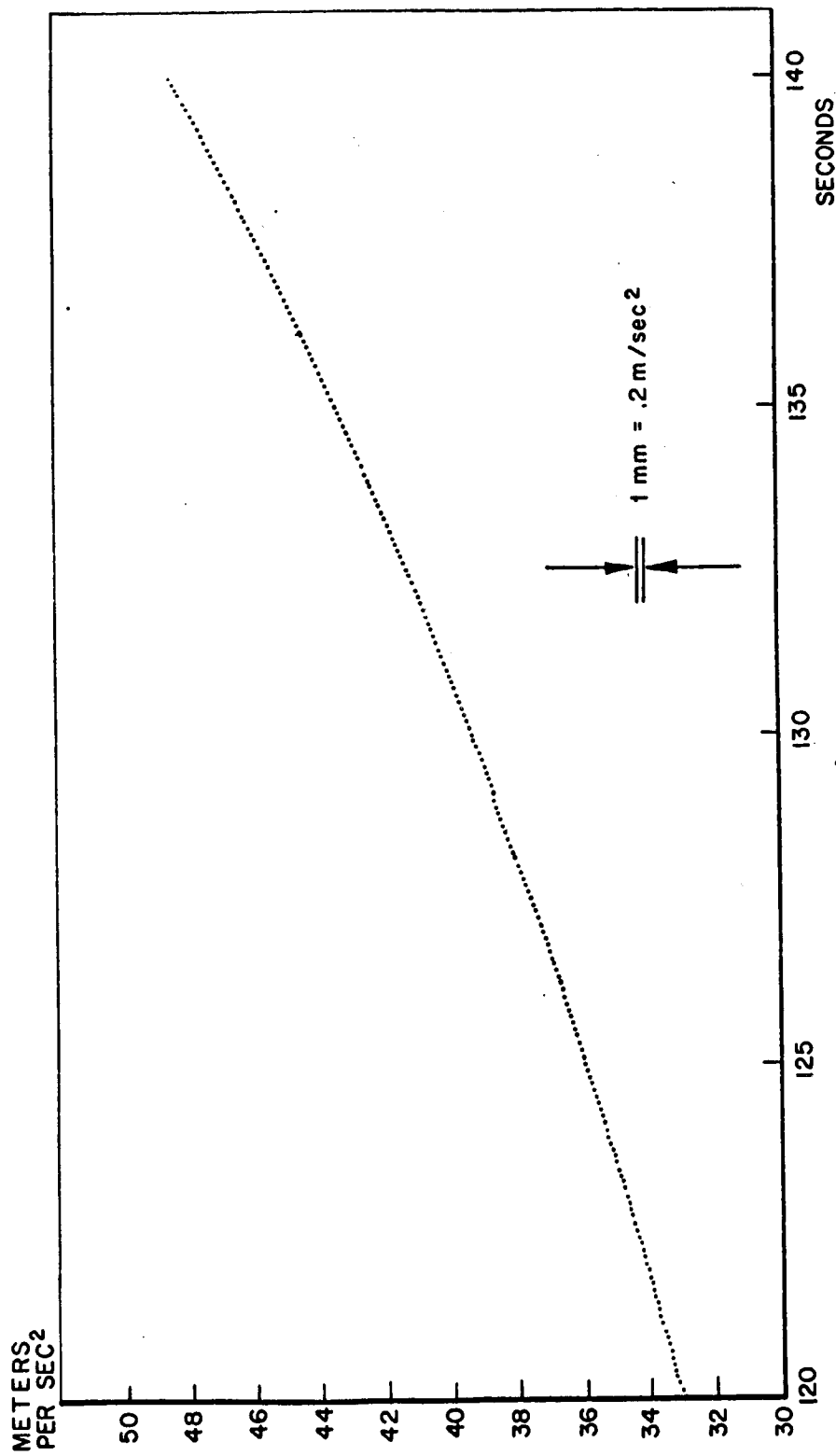


FIG 19. SMOOTH X ACCELERATION UDOP (120 to 140 sec)

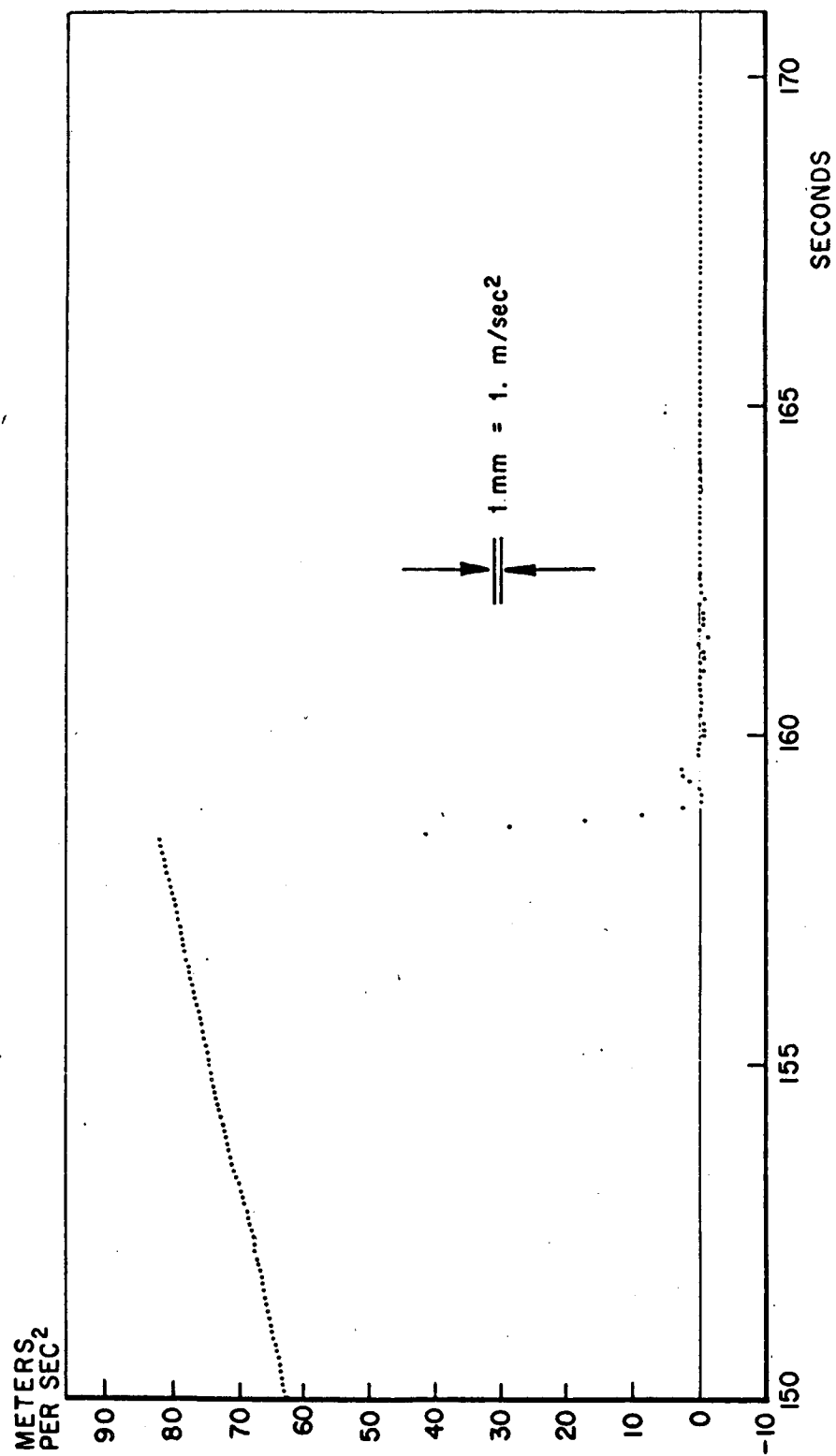


FIG 20. SMOOTH X ACCELERATION UDOP (150 to 170 sec)

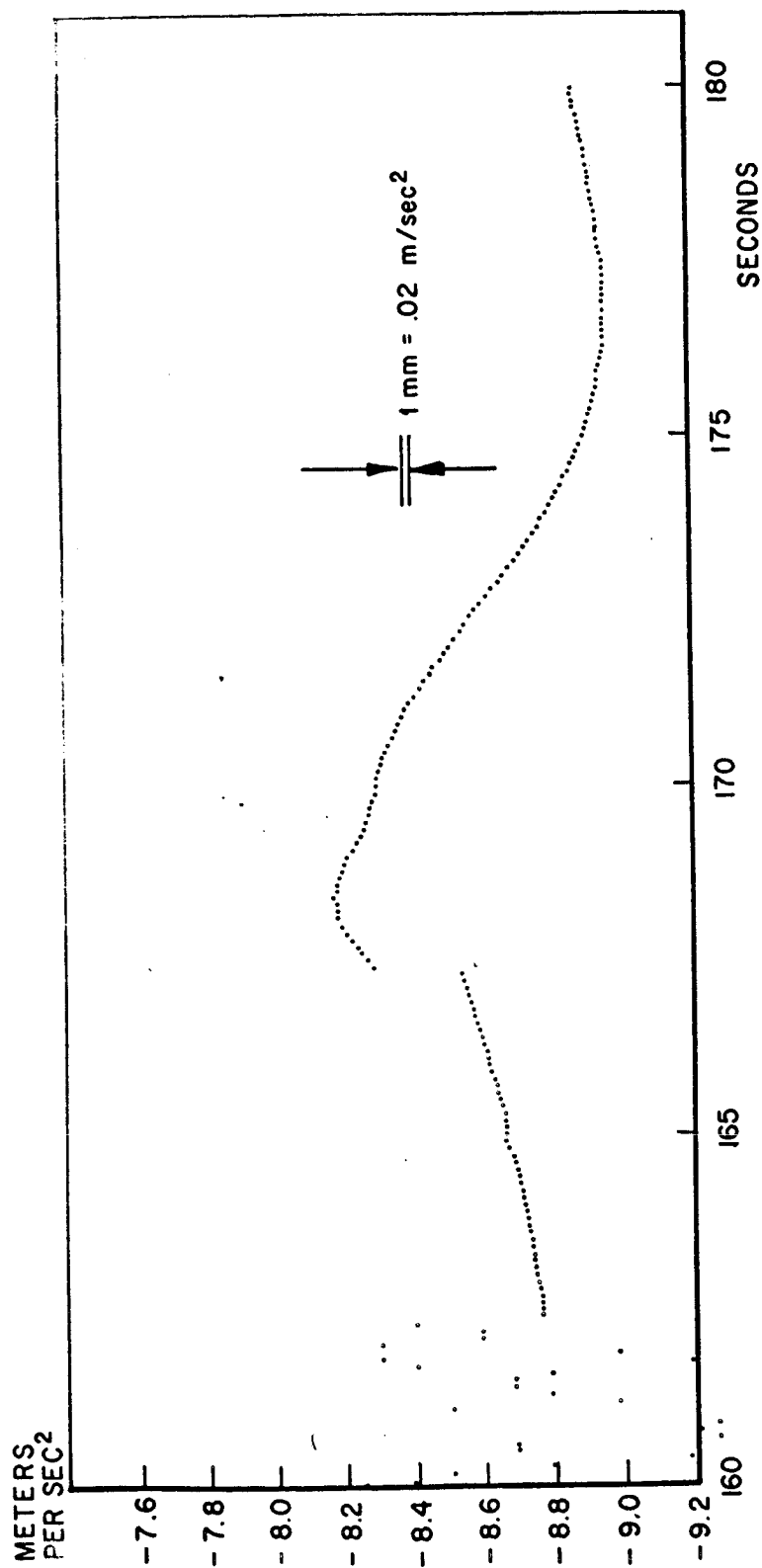


FIG 21. SMOOTH Y ACCELERATION UDOP (160 to 180 sec)

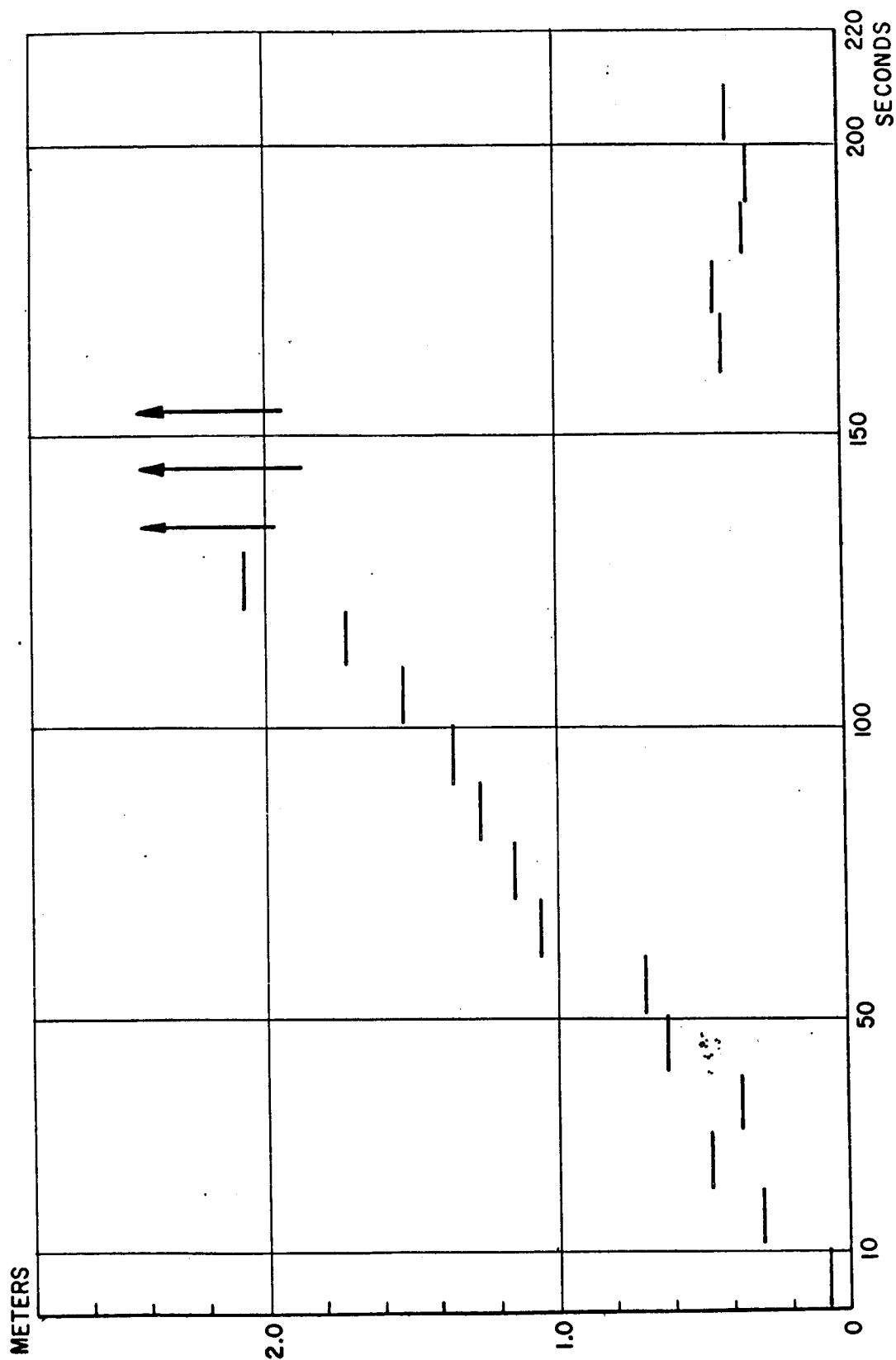


FIG. 22 STANDARD DEVIATION OF SMOOTH X POSITIONS UDOP

METERS

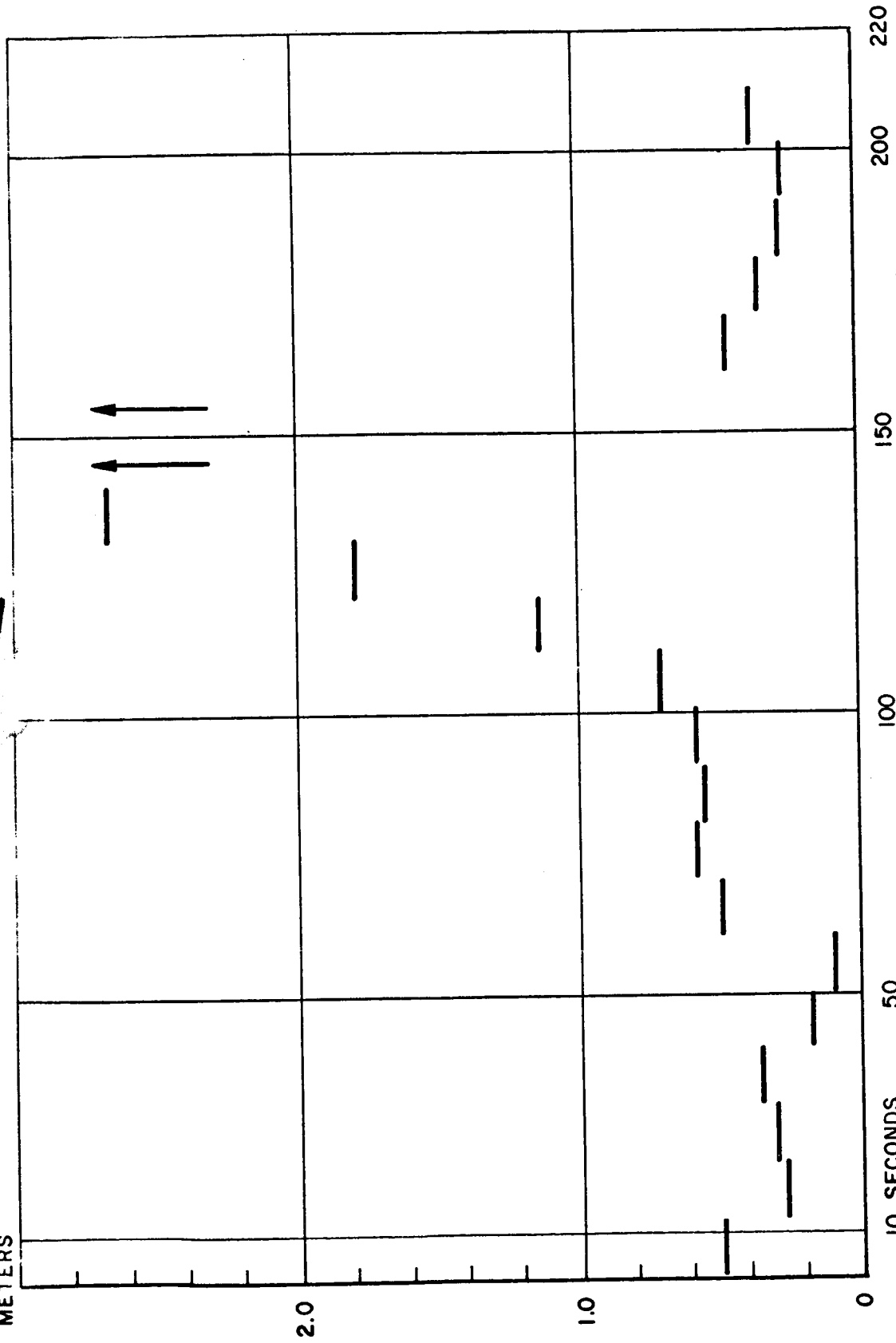


FIG 23 STANDARD DEVIATION OF SMOOTH Y POSITIONS UDOP

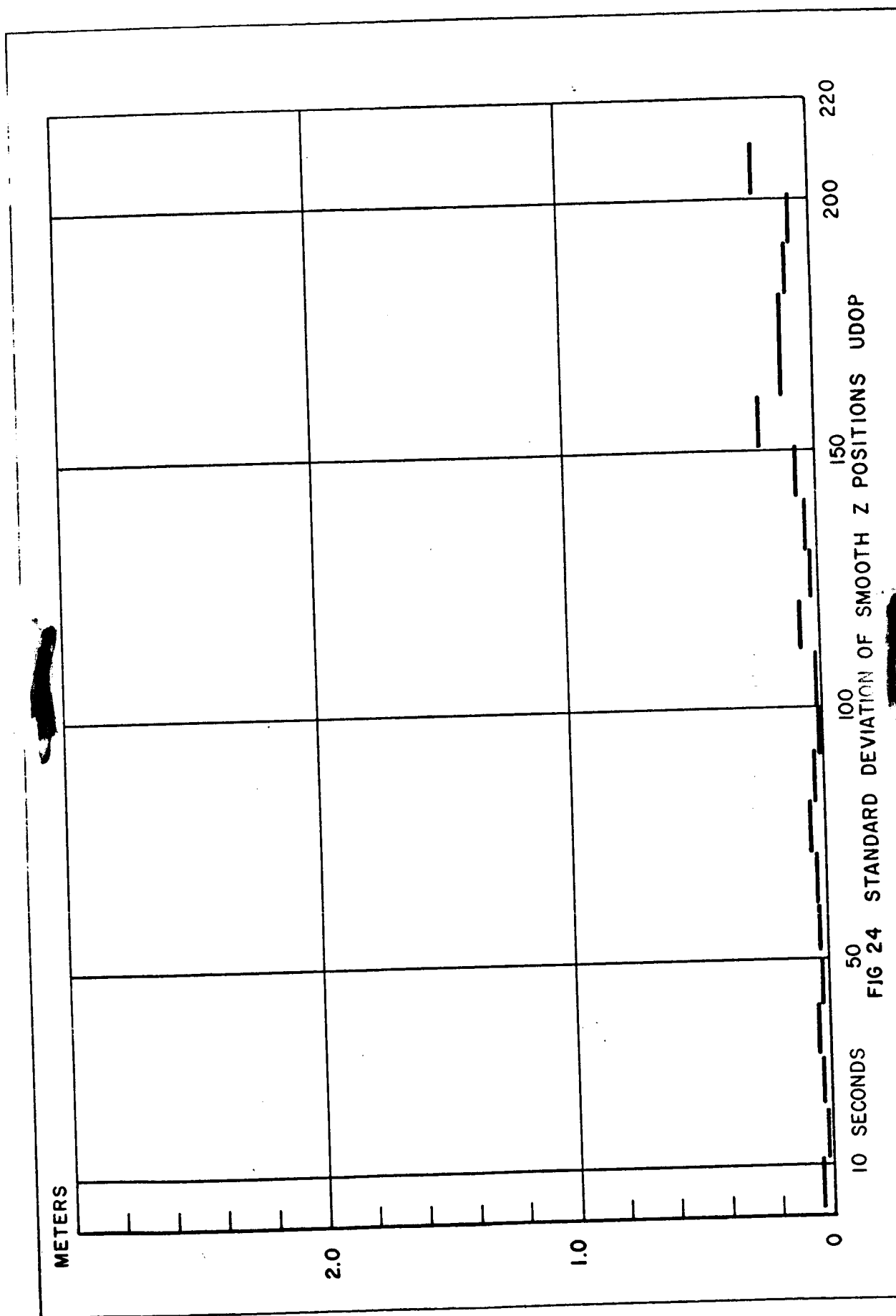


FIG 24

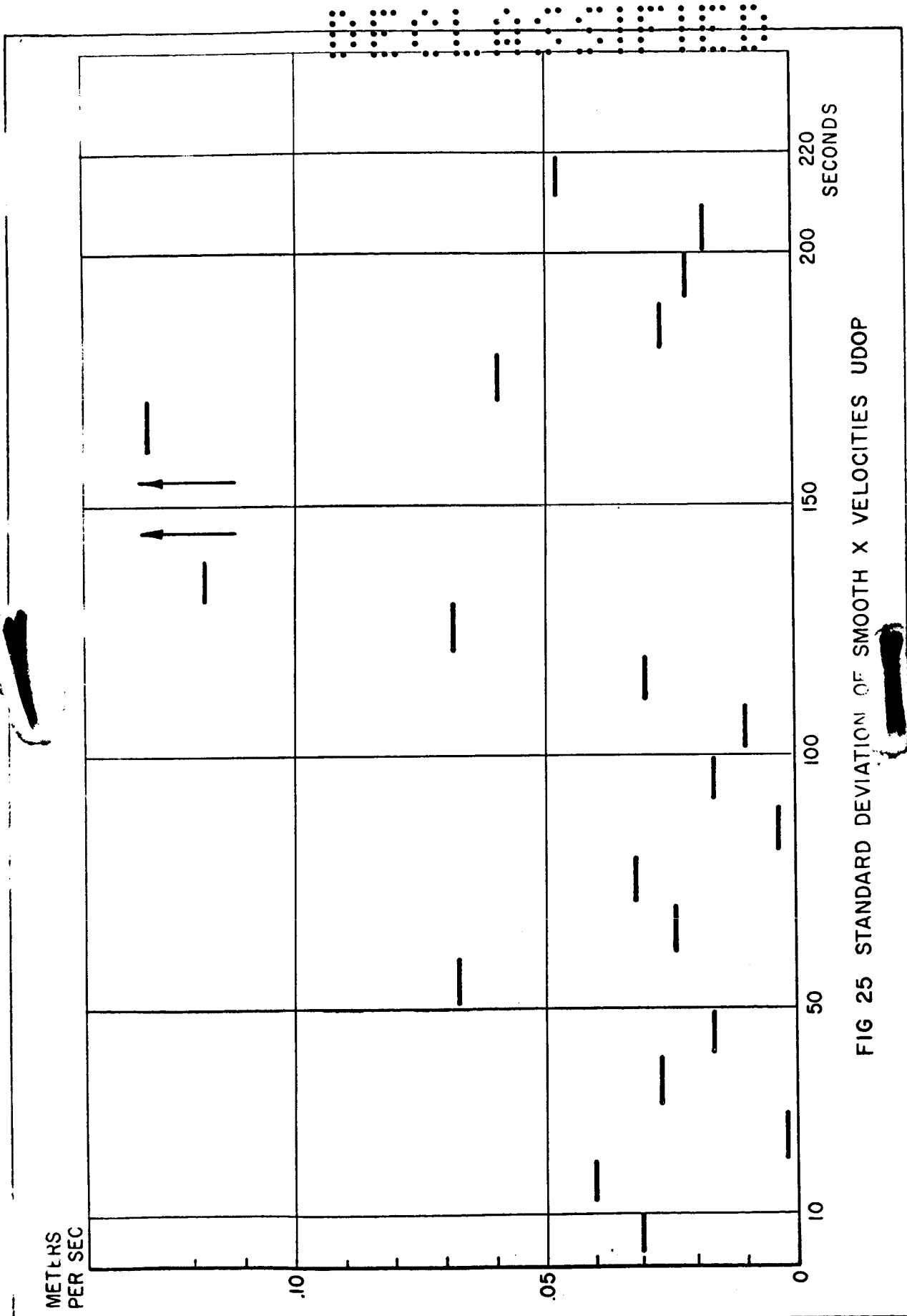
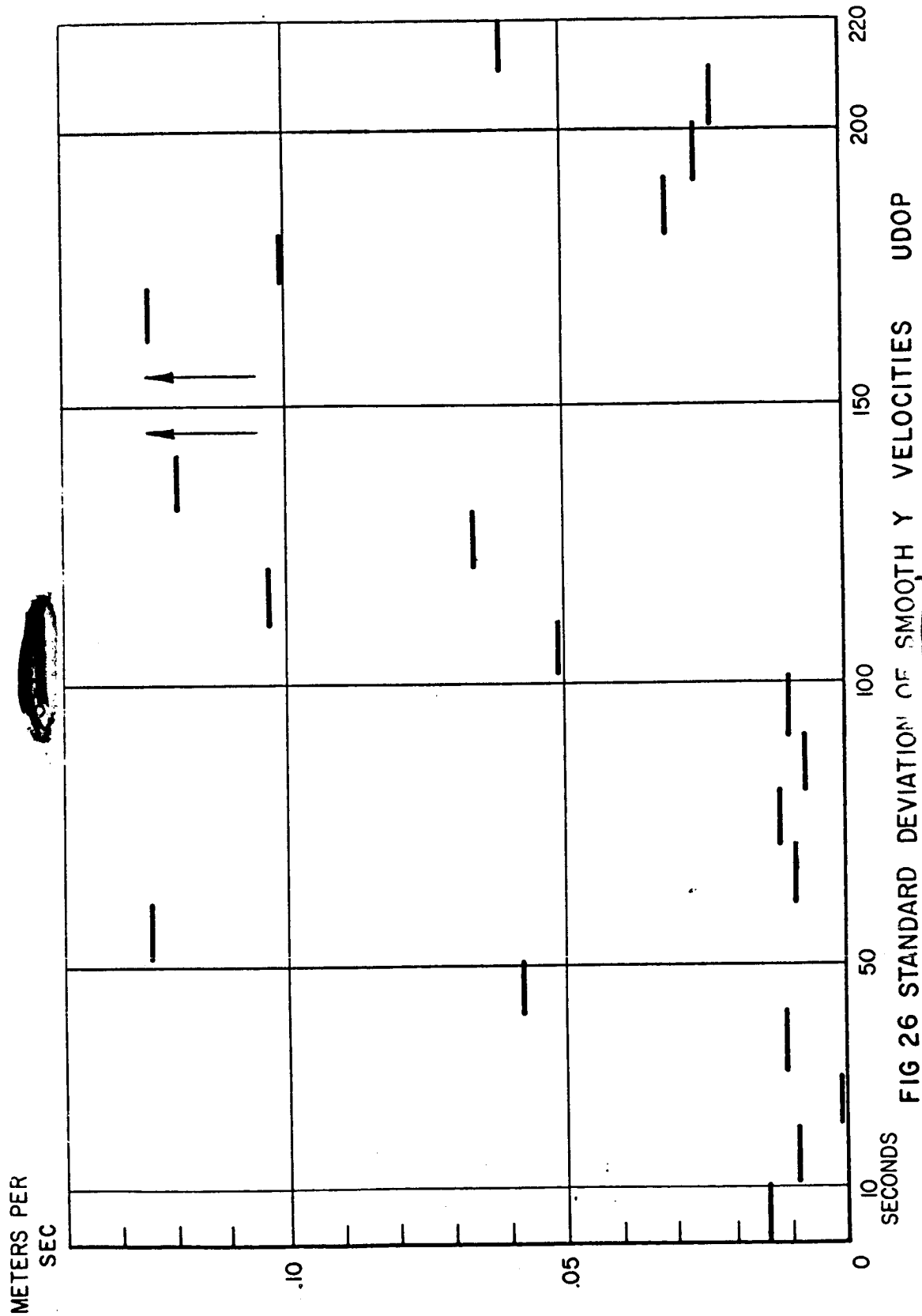


FIG 25 STANDARD DEVIATION OF SMOOTH X VELOCITIES UDOP

DECLASSIFIED





SECRET

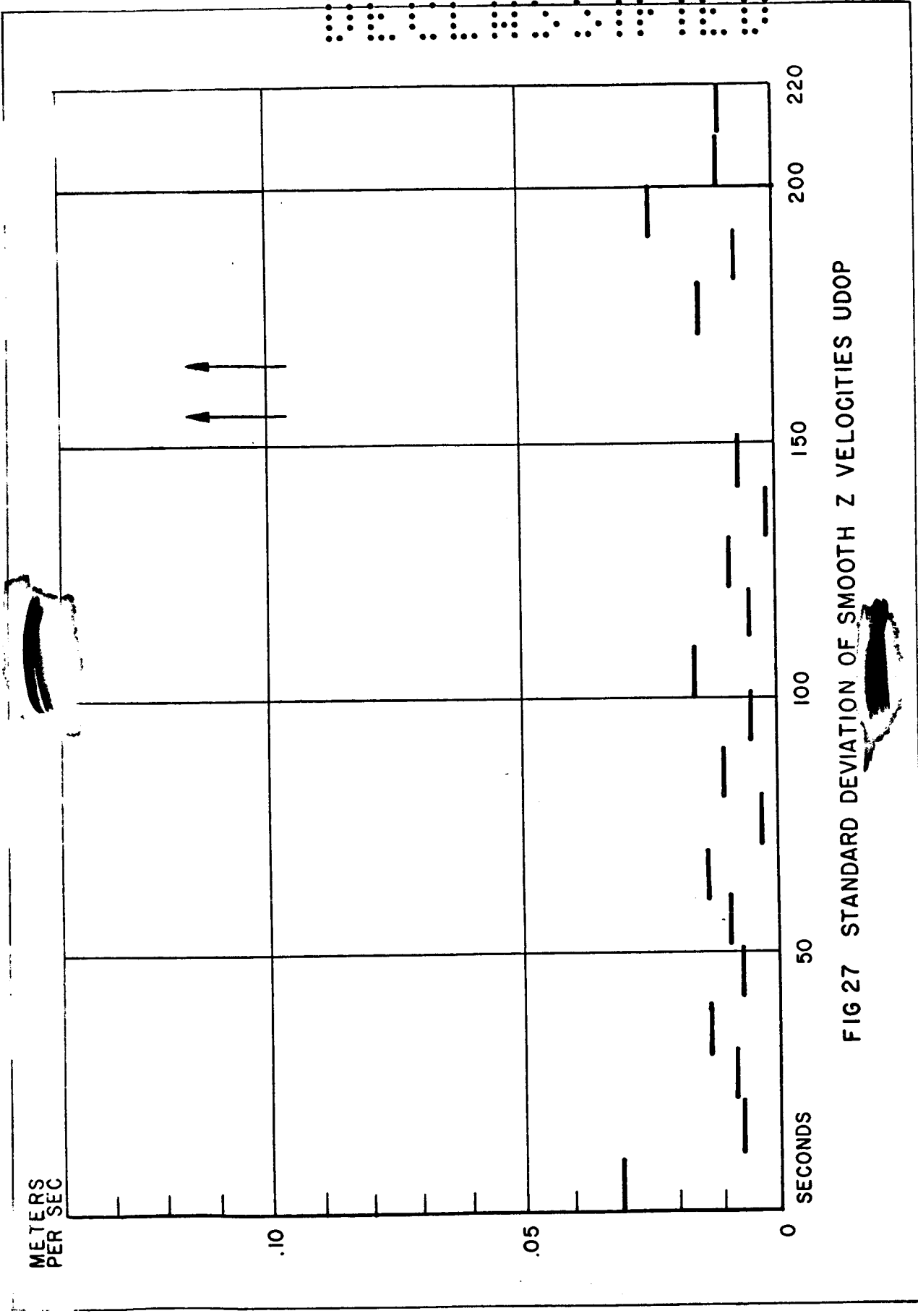


FIG 27 STANDARD DEVIATION OF SMOOTH Z VELOCITIES UDOP

SECRET

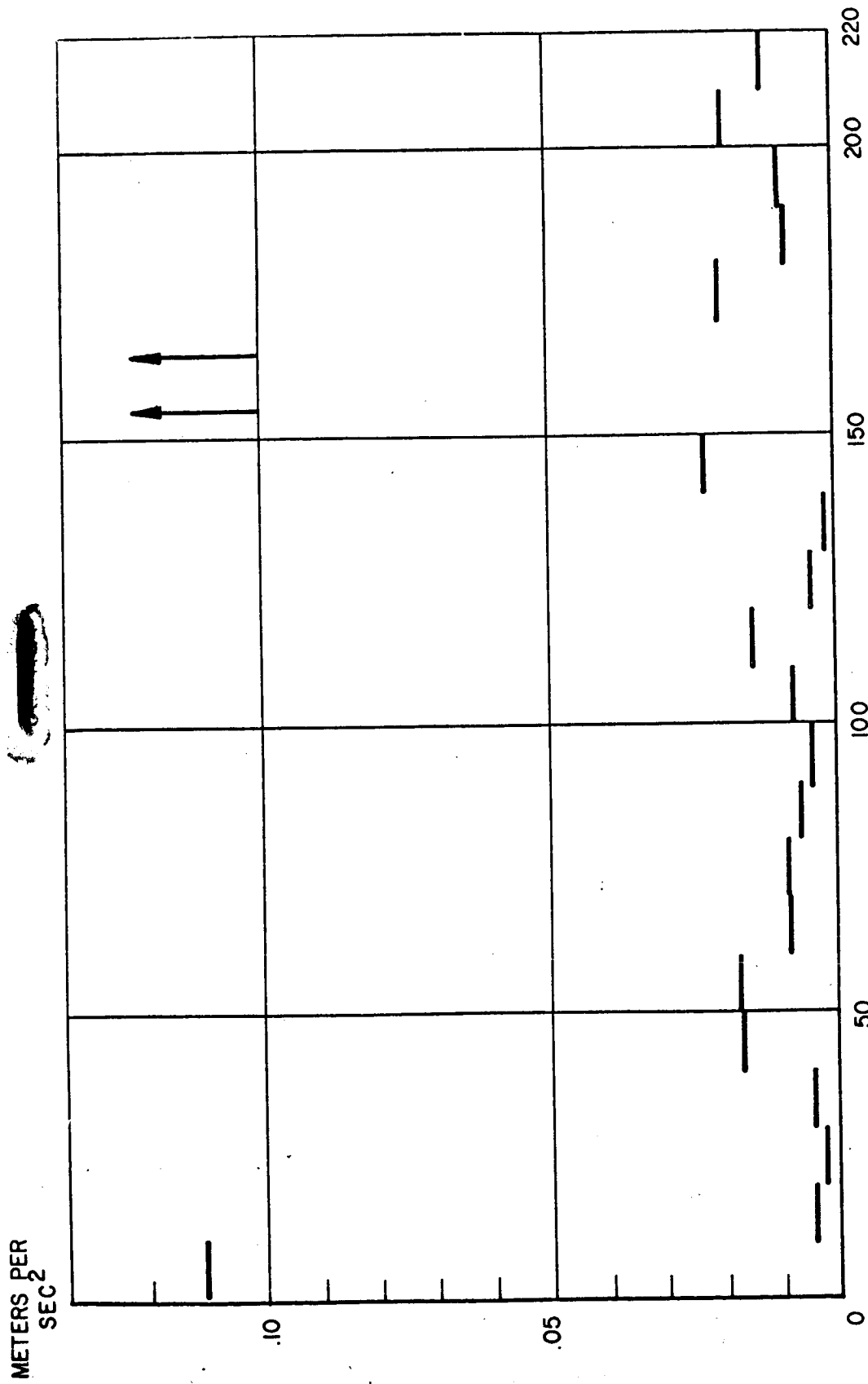


FIG 28 STANDARD DEVIATION OF SMOOTH X ACCELERATIONS UDOP

SECRET

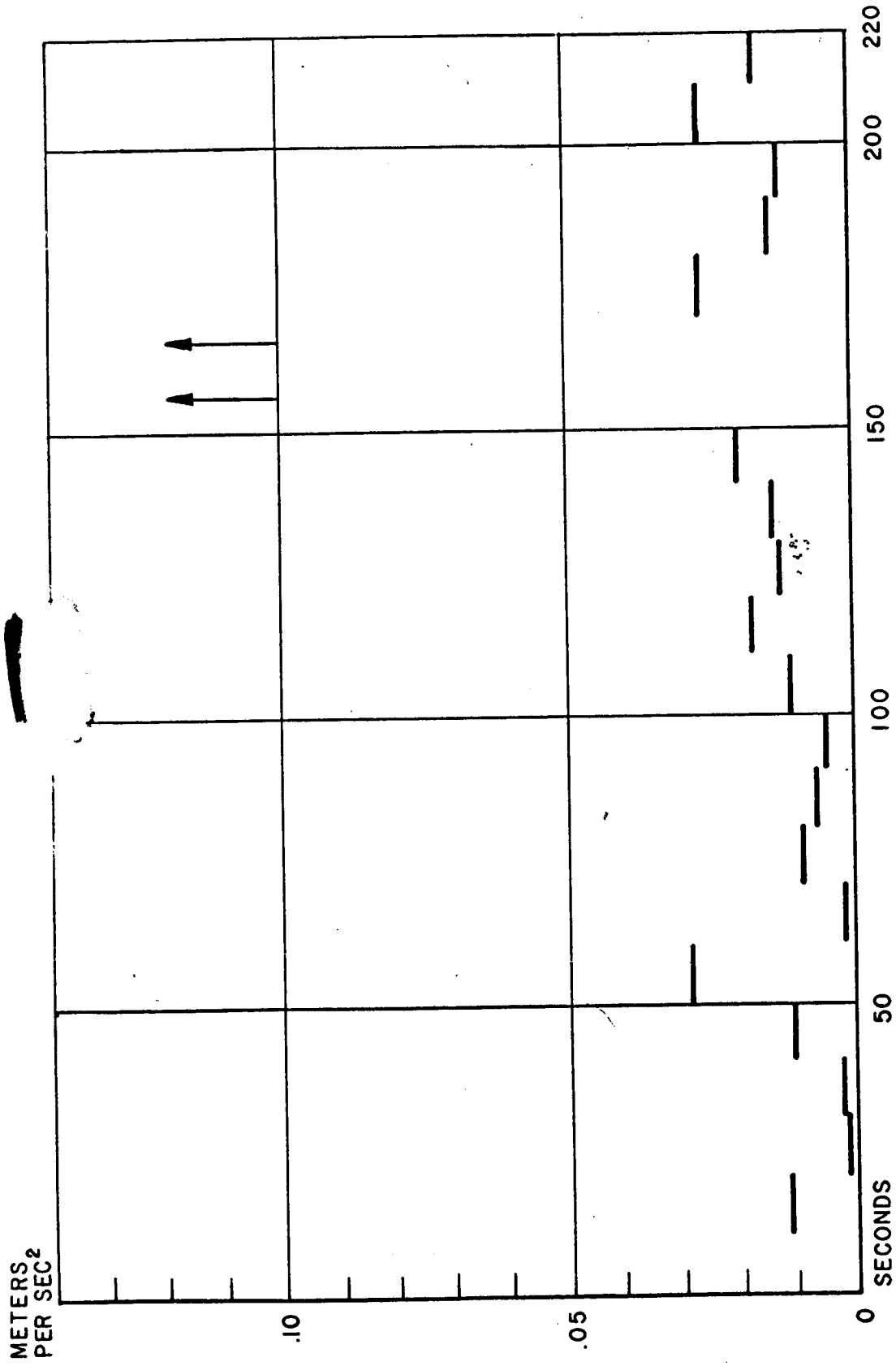


FIG 29 STANDARD DEVIATION OF SMOOTH Y ACCELERATION UDOP

DECLASSIFIED

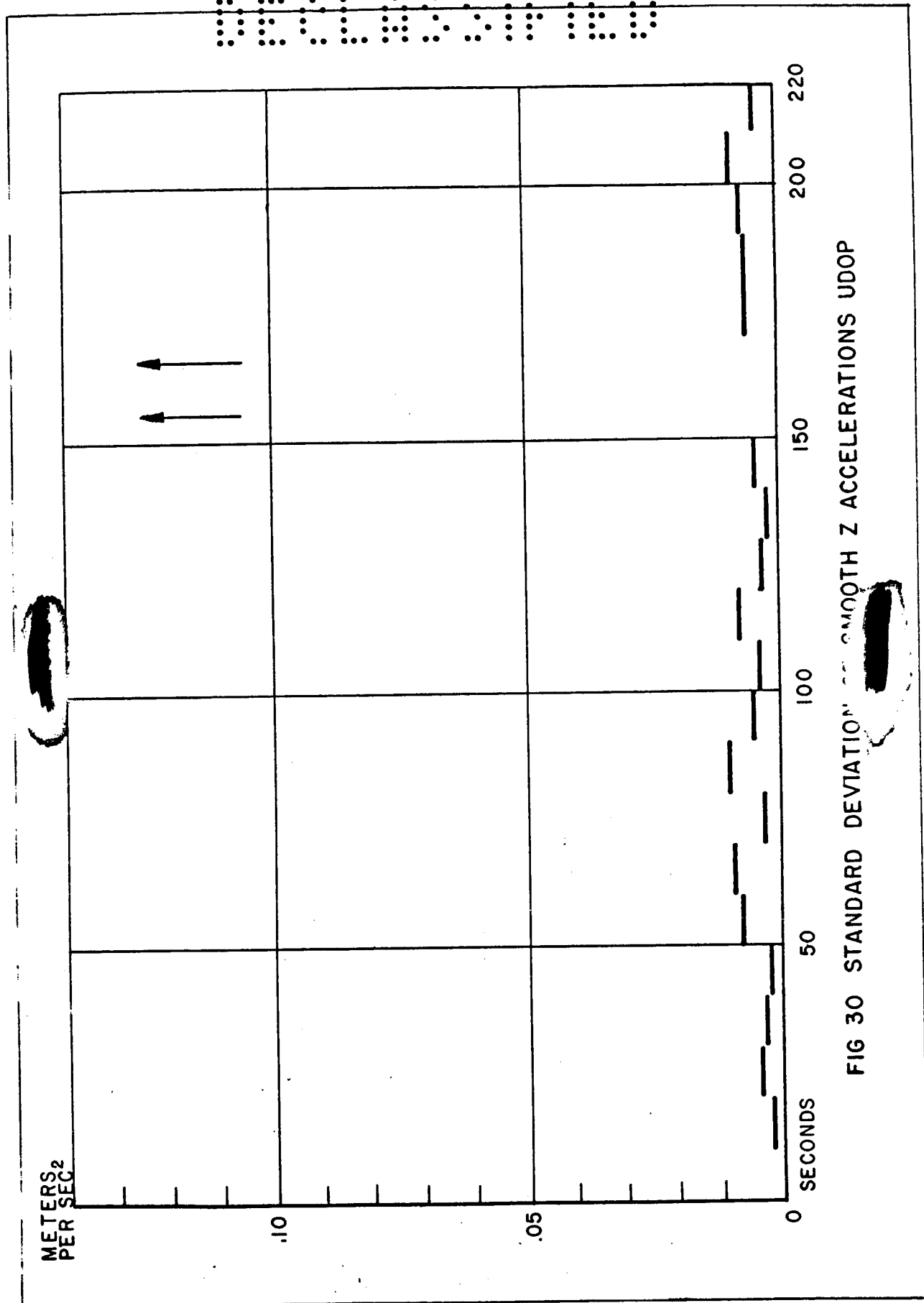


FIG 30 STANDARD DEVIATION OF SMOOTH Z ACCELERATIONS UDOP

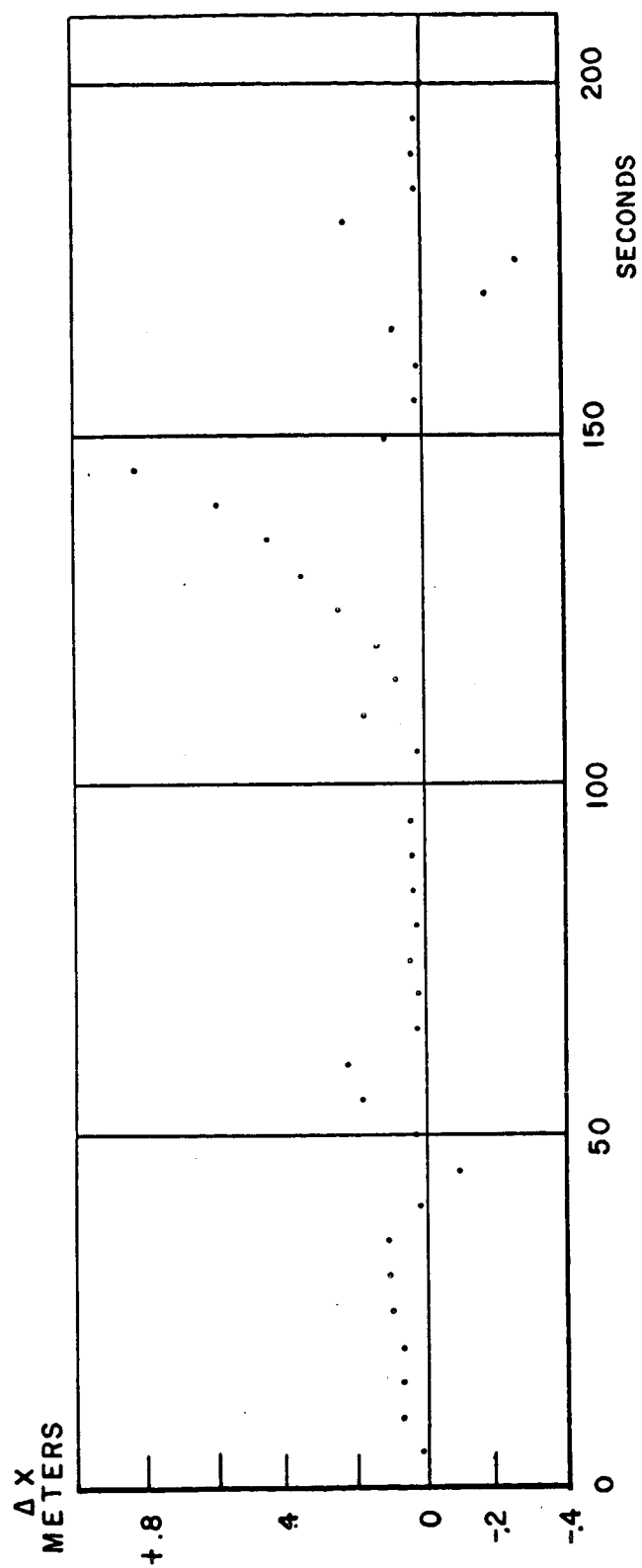


FIG 31 X POSITION ERROR DUE TO SMOOTHING

SECRET

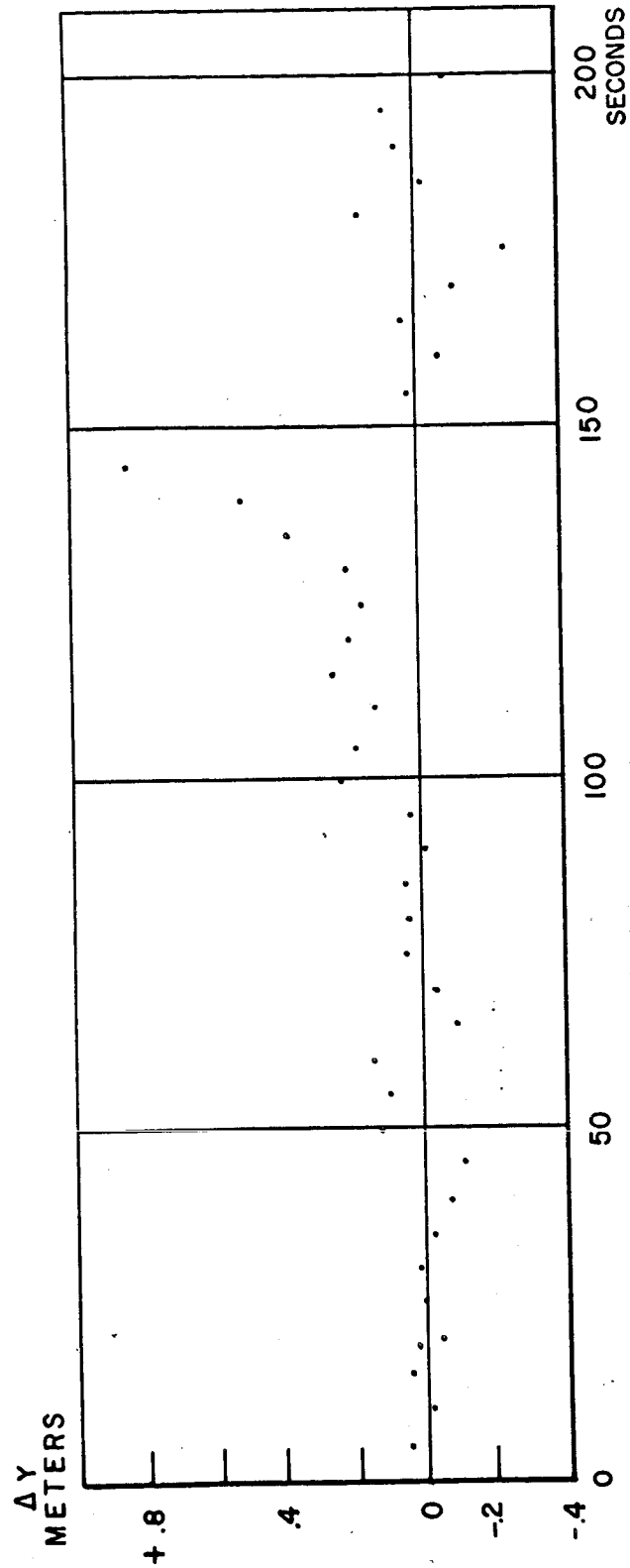


FIG 32 Y POSITION ERROR DUE TO SMOOTHING

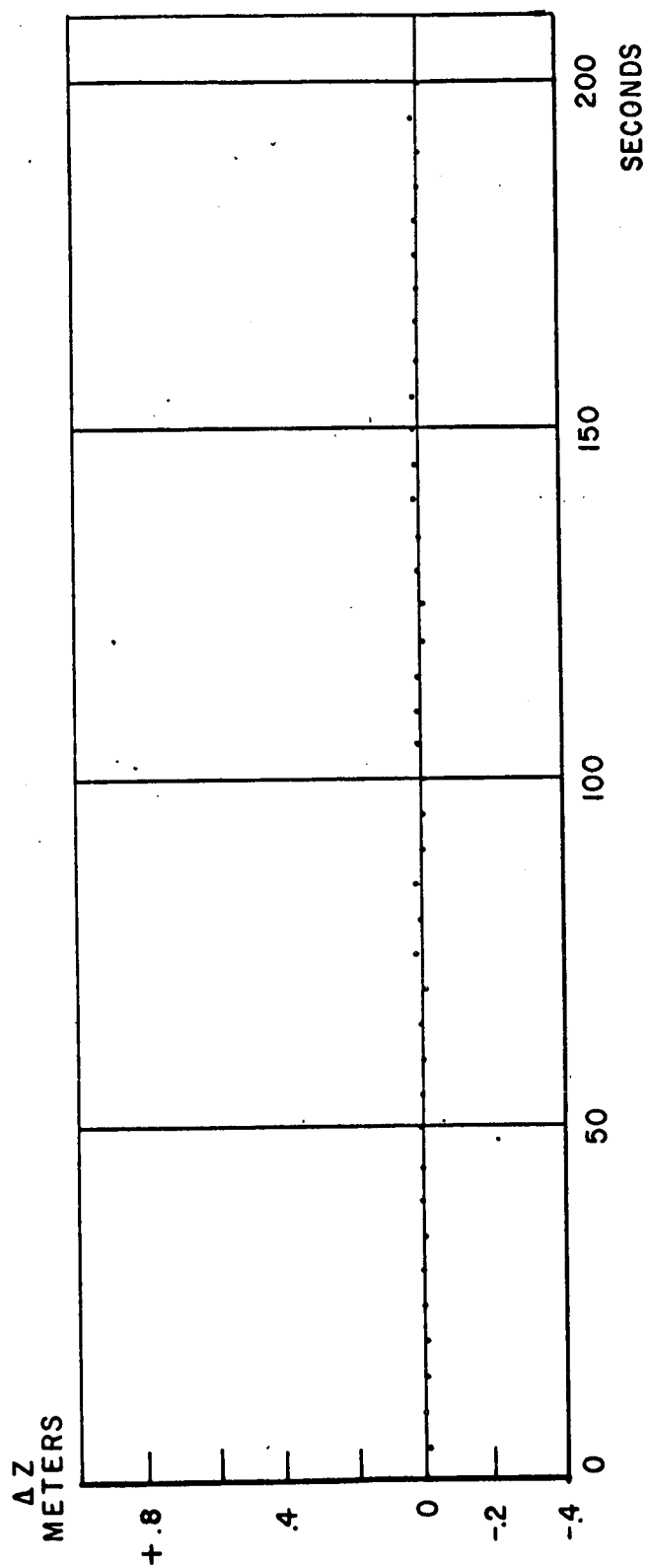


FIG 33 Z POSITION ERROR DUE TO SMOOTHING

DECLASSIFIED

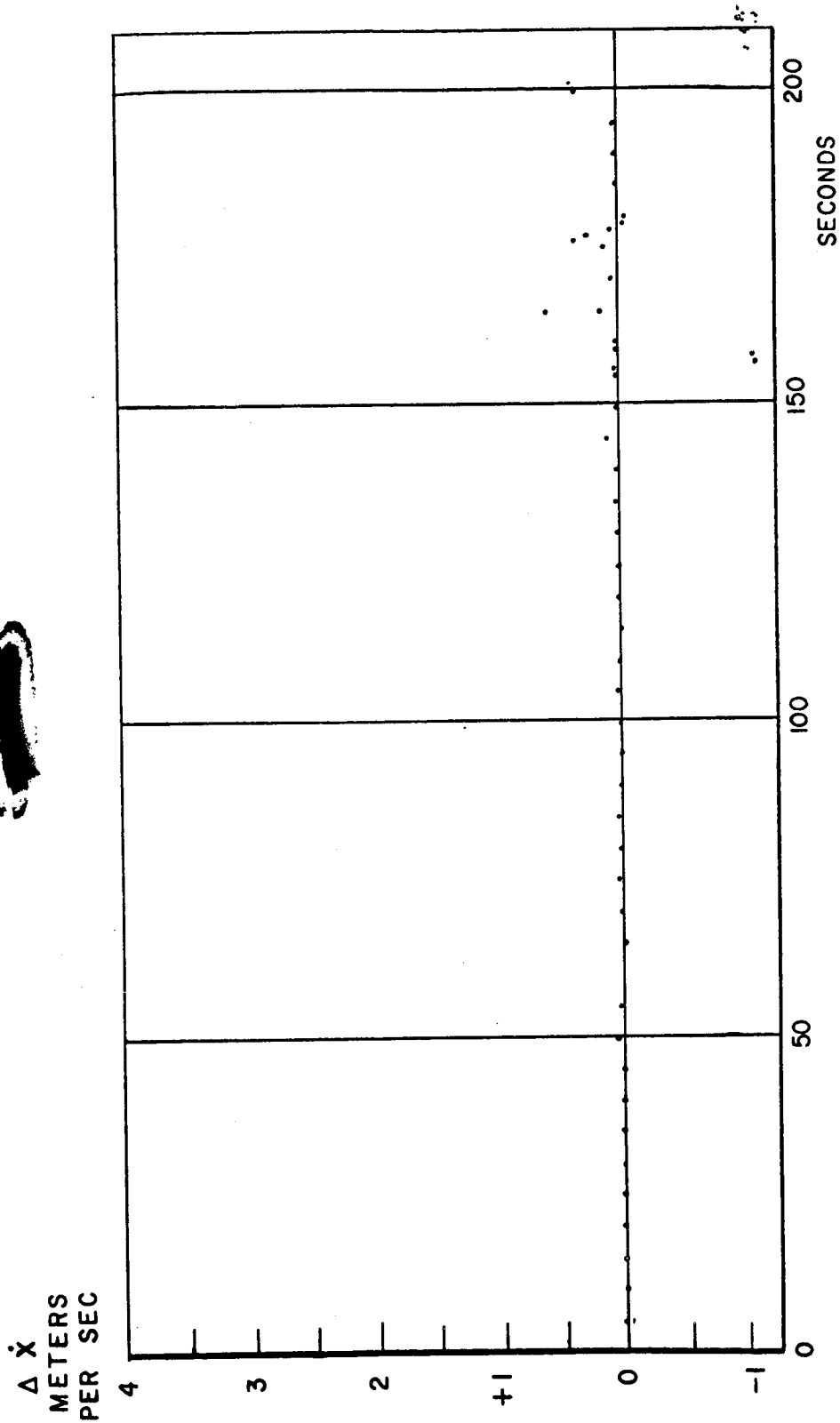


FIG 34 X VELOCITY ERROR DUE TO SMOOTHING



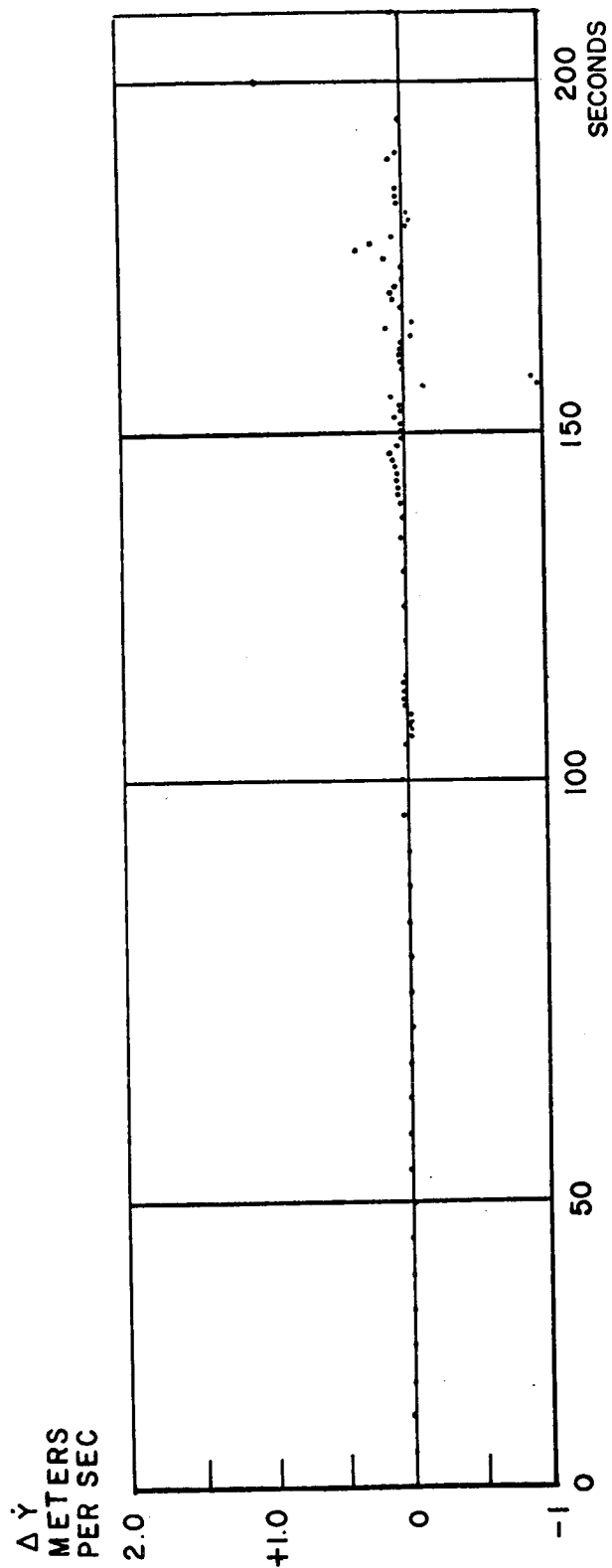


FIG 35 Y VELOCITY ERROR DUE TO SMOOTHING

DECLASSIFIED

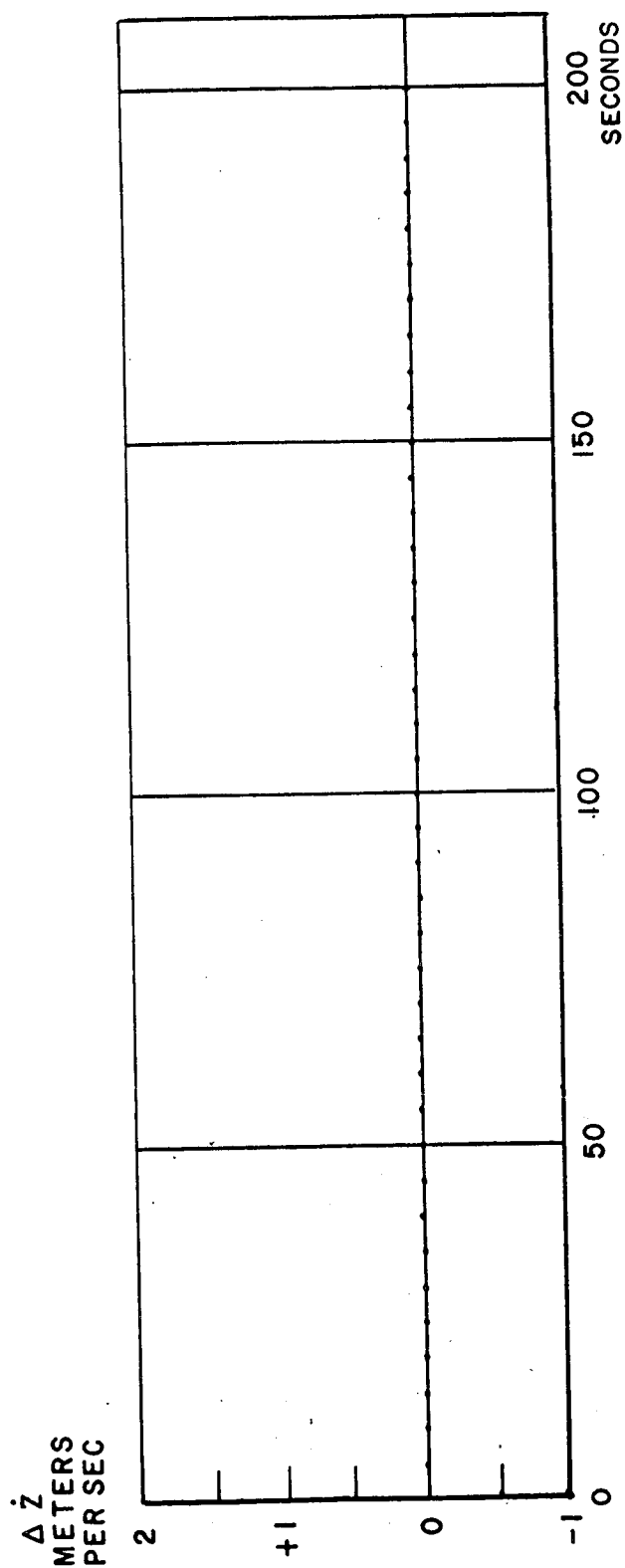


FIG 36 Z VELOCITY ERROR DUE TO SMOOTHING

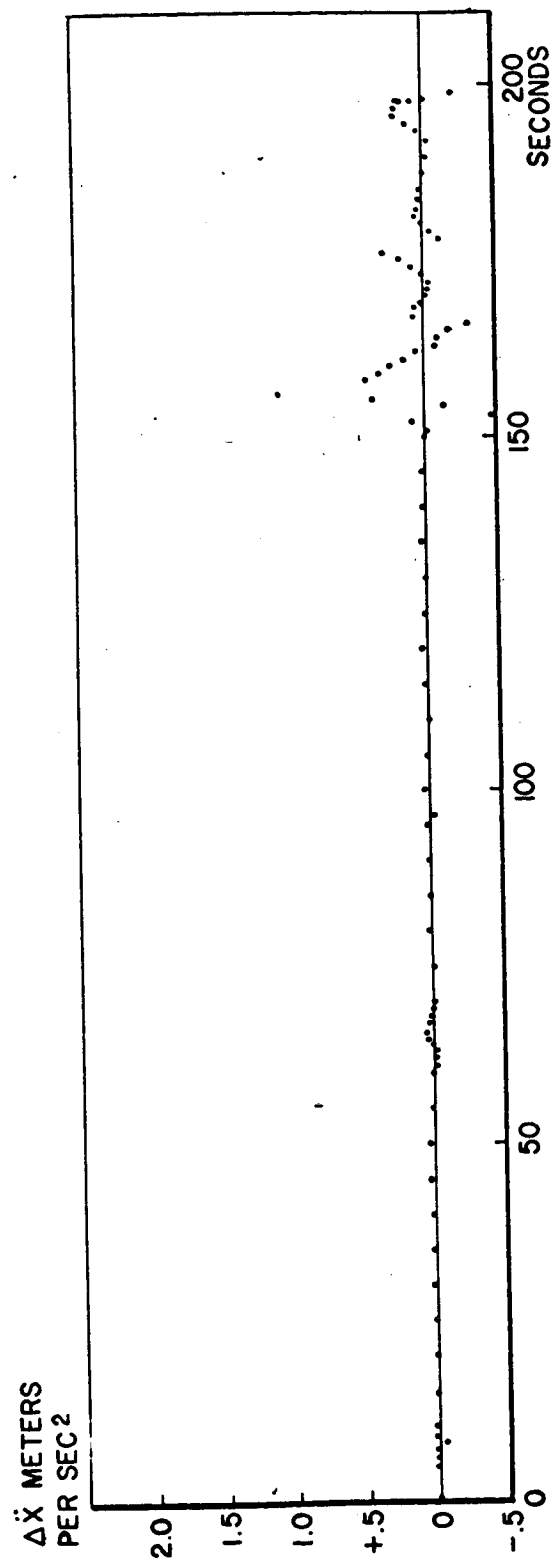


FIG. 37 X ACCELERATION ERROR DUE TO SMOOTHING

$\Delta \ddot{Y}$  METERS  
PER SEC<sup>2</sup>

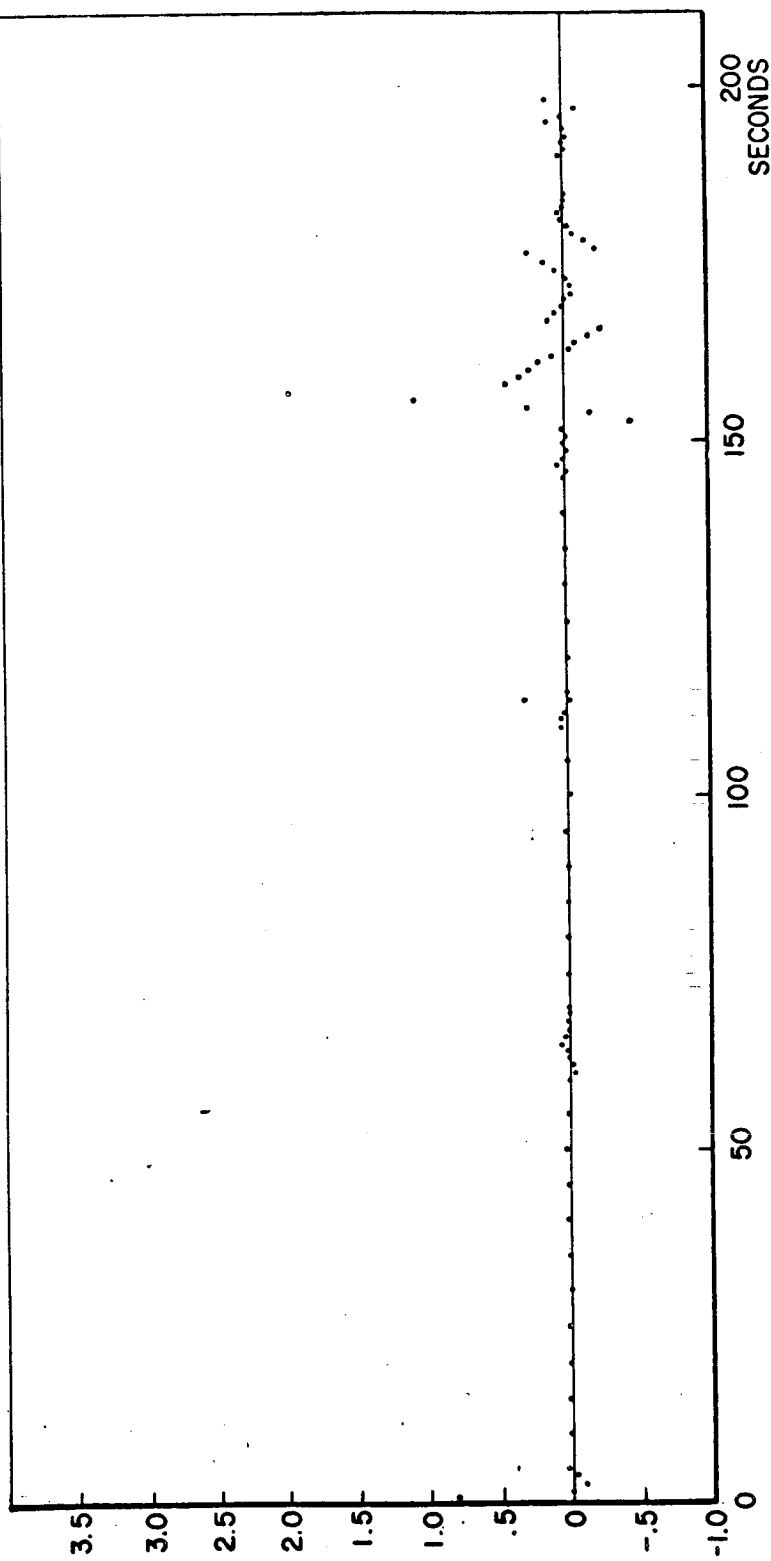


FIG. 38 Y ACCELERATION ERROR DUE TO SMOOTHING

$\Delta \ddot{Z}$  METERS  
PER SEC<sup>2</sup>

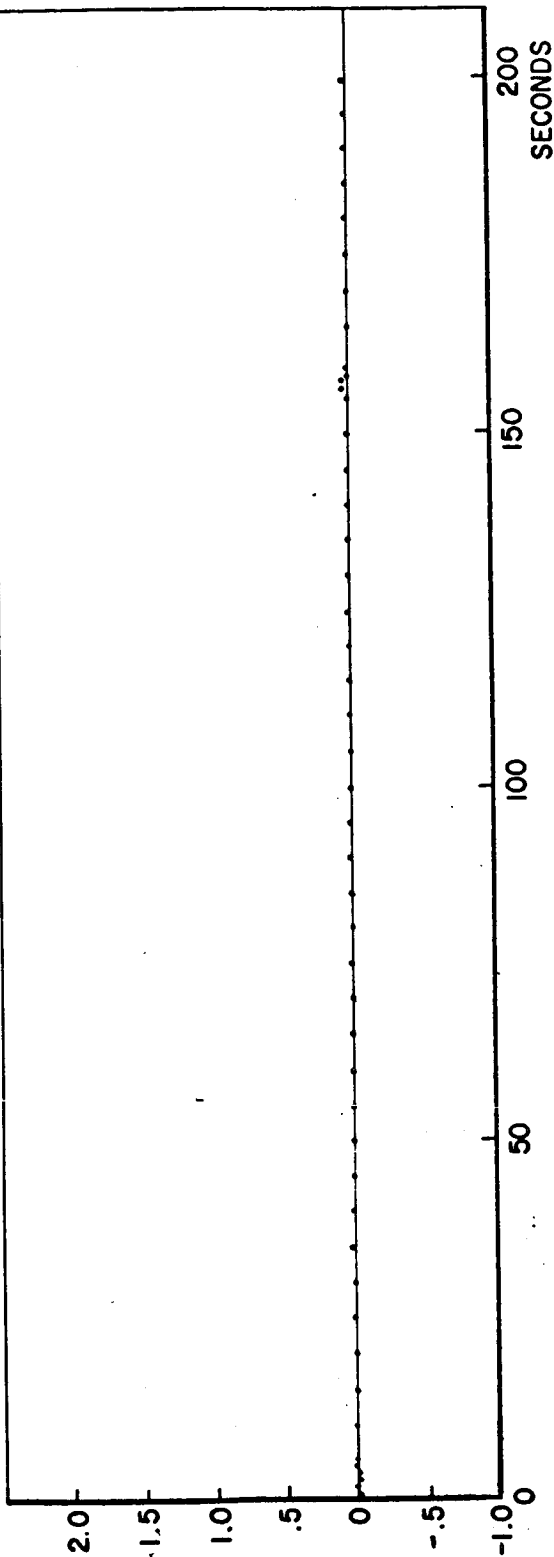


FIG. 39 Z ACCELERATION ERROR DUE TO SMOOTHING

DECLASSIFIED

DECLASSIFIED

(U) APPROVAL

MM-M-COMP-1-60

W. E. Moore  
W. E. MOORE  
Chief, Data Reduction Branch

C. L. Bradshaw  
DR. HELMUT HOELZER  
Director, Computation Laboratory

(U) DISTRIBUTION:

M-DIR, Office of the Director, MSFC  
Attn: Director  
Deputy Director

M-COMP, Computation Division  
Attn: Dr. Hoelzer/Mr. Bradshaw  
Mr. Moore  
Mr. Aichele (3)  
Mr. Cochran  
Mr. Felder  
Mr. MacGowan (5)  
Mr. Anderson (5)  
Mr. Beard  
Mr. Whigham  
Mr. Peddycoart

M-AERO, Aeroballistics Division  
Attn: Dr. Geissler  
Dr. Speer  
Mr. Lindberg  
Mr. Fulmer (3)

M-LOD, Launch Operations Directorate  
Attn: Dr. Debus (2)  
Mr. Thoman (5)

M-PAT  
Attn: Mr. John Warden

M-MS-IP, Technical Documents Unit (8)

~~DECLASSIFIED~~

cy 37



July 21, 1960

MM-M COMP-1 00

CURRENTLY USED SMOOTHING AND DIFFERENTIATION  
 PROCEDURES FOR OBTAINING VELOCITIES AND  
 ACCELERATIONS AND THEIR EFFECT ON DISPERSION (U)

By Philip N. Anderson & Roger A. Macoswan

Classification Changed

~~DECLASSIFIED~~

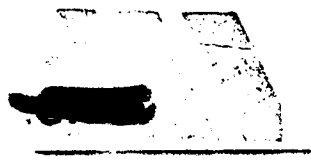
Aut

4

*Security Classification Officer*  
 By *[Signature]*



U.S. AIR FORCE AERONAUTICS AND SPACE ADMINISTRATION



707-29196

DECLASSIFIED

July 21, 1960

MM-M-COMP-1-60

CURRENTLY USED SMOOTHING AND DIFFERENTIATION  
PROCEDURES FOR OBTAINING VELOCITIES AND  
ACCELERATIONS AND THEIR EFFECT ON DISPERSION (U)

By


Philip N. Anderson and Roger A. MacGowan

UNCLASSIFIED  
This report contains 54 ~~classified~~ pages.

DATA REDUCTION BRANCH  
COMPUTATION DIVISION

---

Arranged and Processed  
by  
PUBLICATIONS ENGINEERING SECTION  
SPACE SYSTEMS INFORMATION BRANCH





DECLASSIFIED

**SECURITY NOTE**

*This document contains information affecting the national defense of the United States within the meaning of the Espionage Law, Title 18, U.S.C., Section 793 and 794, as amended. The transmission or revelation of its contents in any manner to an unauthorized person is prohibited by law.*

DECLASSIFIED

(U) ABSTRACT

The reasons for the selection of the smoothing and differentiation formulas, which are currently used in calculation of smooth missile positions, velocities and accelerations, are studied. The formulas are described in detail and their effect is illustrated. Approximate values of the noise level in the smooth data are provided and the magnitude of systematic errors due to these procedures is estimated.

INDEX

Mathematics: abstract studies. - 27

# DECLASSIFIED

## (U) TABLE OF CONTENTS

	Page
ION INTRODUCTION . . . . .	1
ION II. SMOOTHING AND DIFFERENTIATION PROCEDURES CURRENTLY IN USE . . . . .	1
1. Development . . . . .	1
2. Description . . . . .	3
3. Effects . . . . .	8
ION III. CONCLUSIONS . . . . .	9

DECLASSIFIED

(U) LIST OF ILLUSTRATIONS

Figure		Page
1	First Pass of Program . . . . .	16
2	Second Pass of Program . . . . .	17
3	Initial Section of First Pass . . . . .	18
4	Cutoff Section of First Pass . . . . .	19
5	Final Section of First Pass . . . . .	20
6	Smooth X Velocity UDOP (0 to 200 seconds) . . . . .	21
7	Smooth Y Velocity UDOP (0 to 200 seconds) . . . . .	22
8	Smooth Z Velocity UDOP (0 to 200 seconds) . . . . .	23
9	Smooth Y Velocity UDOP (40 to 60 seconds) . . . . .	24
10	Smooth Z Velocity UDOP (100 to 120 seconds) . . . . .	25
11	Smooth X Velocity UDOP (120 to 140 seconds) . . . . .	26
12	Smooth X Velocity UDOP (150 to 170 seconds) . . . . .	27
13	Smooth Y Velocity UDOP (160 to 180 seconds) . . . . .	28
14	Smooth X Acceleration UDOP (0 to 200 seconds) . . . . .	29
15	Smooth Y Acceleration UDOP (0 to 200 seconds) . . . . .	30
16	Smooth Z Acceleration UDOP (0 to 200 seconds) . . . . .	31
17	Smooth Y Acceleration UDOP (40 to 60 seconds) . . . . .	32
18	Smooth Z Acceleration UDOP (100 to 120 seconds) . . . . .	33
19	Smooth X Acceleration UDOP (120 to 140 seconds) . . . . .	34
20	Smooth X Acceleration UDOP (150 to 170 seconds) . . . . .	35
21	Smooth Y Acceleration UDOP (160 to 180 seconds) . . . . .	36
22	Standard Deviation of Smooth X UDOP . . . . .	37
23	Standard Deviation of Smooth Y UDOP . . . . .	38
24	Standard Deviation of Smooth Z UDOP . . . . .	39

DECLASSIFIED

(U) LIST OF ILLUSTRATIONS (Continued)

Figure		Page
	Standard Deviation of Smooth X Velocities UDOP . . . .	40
	Standard Deviation of Smooth Y Velocities UDOP . . . .	41
	Standard Deviation of Smooth Z Velocities UDOP . . . .	42
28	Standard Deviation of Smooth X Accelerations UDOP . . .	43
	Standard Deviation of Smooth Y Accelerations UDOP . . . .	44
	Standard Deviation of Smooth Z Accelerations UDOP . . . .	45
	X Position Error Due to Smoothing . . . . .	46
	Y Position Error Due to Smoothing . . . . .	47
	Z Position Error Due to Smoothing . . . . .	48
	X Velocity Error Due to Smoothing . . . . .	49
	Y Velocity Error Due to Smoothing . . . . .	50
	Z Velocity Error Due to Smoothing . . . . .	51
	X Acceleration Error Due to Smoothing . . . . .	52
30	Y Acceleration Error Due to Smoothing . . . . .	53
39	Z Acceleration Error Due to Smoothing . . . . .	54

# DECLASSIFIED

## LIST OF SYMBOLS

$x_n$	Unsmoothed position X, Y, or Z. Subscript n refers to particular point.
$x_L$	Unsmoothed position X, Y, or Z at last point.
$\bar{x}_n$	Smoothed position X, Y, or Z
$\dot{x}_n$	Unsmoothed velocity X, Y, or Z calculated from smoothed positions.
$\ddot{x}_n$	Unsmoothed acceleration X, Y, or Z calculated from smoothed positions.
$\bar{\dot{x}}_n$	Smoothed velocity X, Y, or Z calculated from smoothed positions.
$\bar{\ddot{x}}_n$	Smoothed acceleration X, Y, or Z calculated from smoothed positions.
$\Delta t$	Time interval of input data.
$T_{co}$	Time of chamber pressure drop following cutoff signal.
$T_{CPI}$	Time of chamber pressure level-off following $T_{co}$ .
$t_L$	Time of last point in input data.
$T_{to}$	Missile liftoff time.
$T_0$	Time of first point in input data.

SECRET

## SECTION I. (S) INTRODUCTION

The analysis of missile test flights, velocities and accelerations are the bases of many other calculations. One method of determining velocities and accelerations is by numerical differentiation of position data. The position data may be obtained from one of several types of instrumentation. The data contain random errors of observation and reduction as well as systematic errors. It is usually necessary to smooth the data to obtain realistic numerical derivatives. The numerical smoothing and differentiation procedures have undergone considerable evolutionary change as a result of experience with varied instrumentation, missile systems, and flight paths. The complexity of the procedures has increased greatly. Questions have frequently arisen concerning the present smoothing and differentiation procedures and the reasons for using these procedures. This report provides some answers by giving some insight into the general problem of smoothing and differentiation and by description of the currently used procedures.

In analyzing smoothing and differentiation procedures it is desirable to have some means of estimating the dispersion of noise in position, velocities, and accelerations. A method has been devised for doing this and is described briefly. A method is also described and applied for determining the systematic errors introduced by the smoothing and differentiation procedures.

## SECTION II (S) SMOOTHING AND DIFFERENTIATION PROCEDURES CURRENTLY IN USE

### Development

The smoothing procedures now in use in the Data Reduction Center generally use moving arc smoothing formulas. In this operation a curve is fitted to an arbitrary number of points which are usually spaced at a fixed time interval and represent a segment of a time series. The number of points, usually the central point, is adjusted to conform to the fitted curve. Then the curve fit formula is shifted along the time series so that one new point is added to the set and one old point at the other end of the series is removed. The fitting and adjustment procedure is then reapplied to the new set, leading to the adjustment of a point adjacent to the previously adjusted point. This procedure may be continued over a major portion of a time series. This point-by-point moving arc smoothing reduces the discontinuities due to end effects to a minimum by distributing them among all the intervals.

The early smoothing procedures employed involved unweighted polynomial approximation by least squares and orthogonal polynomial formulas. Later it was found that the smoothing formulas derived by L. S. Dederick (Ref. 1) were convenient and gave superior results. The goal of a smoothing formula is to increase the smoothness of the data without excessive

SECRET

increasing the adjustments necessary, to achieve this smoothness. The smoothness and adjustments may be measured in terms of the magnitude of the  $n$ th order differences and the magnitude of the residuals

The velocities and accelerations calculated by numerical differentiation frequently showed oscillations of considerable amplitude. Minimization or reduction of these oscillations, which were considered undesirable, was required. The amplitude of these oscillations increased with an increasing degree of the smoothing formula. Thus it was not possible to use as low a degree as possible without causing gross distortion of the original data. It was found that a degree lower than second could not be used with the point spreads that were being considered. Second degree Dederick smoothing formulas of increasing point spread were applied to actual data. In that way a high degree of local smoothness could be achieved while the data still contained very distinct oscillations of considerable amplitude. It was apparent that the oscillations could be reduced by increasing the point spread of the second degree smoothing so as to encompass several oscillations. Thus the formula would not be able to follow the individual oscillations and therefore reduce their amplitudes. Our smoothing formula was modified to cover a 20-second time interval in order to accomplish this reduction in the oscillations. One-tenth of a second time steps means a 200 point smoothing formula. This large number of points would increase the calculation time on a machine appreciable and the build-up of round-off errors might be appreciable also. The difficulty was alleviated by using a 101 point, second degree smoothing formula which covers every second point in the sequence. A further improvement in the smoothness of the velocities and accelerations was achieved by using a second pass smoothing of forty-one points and second degree

This smoothing procedure has the disadvantage of not being able to remove any physical fluctuation having a period and amplitude similar to or less than that of the oscillations. The characteristic Mach one engine cutoff is of sufficient period and amplitude to remain distinct. However, the characteristic engine cutoff pattern would be grossly distorted by this smoothing procedure. In order to preserve the characteristic engine cutoff pattern, the point spread of the smoothing was increased in steps as the time of cutoff is approached. After cutoff the point spread is increased in steps back to that of the general data. Although this permits the preservation of the general characteristic pattern it leaves both noise and oscillations in the data in the vicinity of cutoff. Smoother values of accelerations are available for use in other calculations. Therefore a second degree polynomial is fitted to the ten seconds of acceleration data immediately preceding cutoff. This polynomial is evaluated to get smooth accelerations for the five seconds immediately preceding cutoff. A second degree polynomial is fitted to the ten seconds of acceleration data immediately following the chamber pressure level-off following cutoff. This polynomial is evaluated to get smooth accelerations for the five seconds immediately following chamber pressure level-off



DECLASSIFIED

Special procedures are also used for smoothing and differentiation at the beginning and at the end of the time series. These involve the use of shorter point spreads and asymmetric formulas.

A general purpose smoothing and differentiation program utilizing Dedering coefficients was developed in the Test Data Processing Section. This program was used in some of our studies. It was possible to select any point spread up through twenty-five and any degree up through four. A number of programs utilizing higher point spreads were prepared by Winston L. Whigham of the Test Data Processing Section for use in the studies.

Obviously the procedures could be greatly improved if the oscillations could be kept from developing. It has been discovered that some contribution to the oscillations may be due to roundoff exceeding the relative accuracy of the data. This phenomenon has been studied and reported (Ref. 2). It may be possible to eliminate this source of oscillations. It has also been established that some contribution to the oscillations is due to the smoothing of random noise. This phenomenon has also been studied and reported (Ref. 3). This latter oscillation source cannot be easily eliminated since it is due only to the randomness of the noise and the sampling rate. Other sources of oscillations in the various types of tracking instrumentation also exist.

## 2. Description

The present smoothing and differentiation procedures are programmed for the IBM No. 709. The input to the program is trajectory position data calculated at a fixed time interval. The program consists of two main parts. In the first part the position data are smoothed, and first and second derivatives are calculated at each time step using these smoothed positions. In the second part of the program the calculated velocities and accelerations are smoothed and a second degree curve fit is used to obtain smooth accelerations near cutoff time.

### a. Initial equations of the first part

$$\bar{U}_0 = \bar{U}_0 = \ddot{U}_0 = 0 \quad \text{when } t_0 \leq t_{t0}$$

$$\bar{U}_0 = \frac{1}{5} (3U_0 + 2\bar{U}_1 + \bar{U}_2 - \bar{U}_4) \quad \text{when } t_0 > t_{t0} \quad (2)$$

$$\dot{\bar{U}}_0 = \dot{\bar{U}}_1 - (\dot{\bar{U}}_2 - \dot{\bar{U}}_1) \quad \text{when } t_0 > t_{t0}$$

$$\ddot{\bar{U}}_0 = \ddot{\bar{U}}_1 - (\ddot{\bar{U}}_2 - \ddot{\bar{U}}_1) \quad \text{when } t_0 > t_{t0}$$

$$\bar{U}_1 = \frac{1}{5} (3U_1 + 2\bar{U}_2 + \bar{U}_3 - \bar{U}_5)$$

DECLASSIFIED

$$\dot{\bar{U}}_1 = \frac{\bar{U}_2 - \bar{U}_0}{2\Delta t} \quad (6)$$

$$\ddot{\bar{U}}_1 = \frac{2\bar{U}_1 - \bar{U}_0}{\Delta t^2} \quad (7)$$

$$\bar{U} = \sum_{i=-2}^{+2} C_i U_{i+2} \quad (8)$$

where the  $C$ 's may be found in Column A of Table 1.

$$\dot{\bar{U}} = \frac{\bar{U}_3 - \bar{U}_1}{2\Delta t} \quad (9)$$

$$\ddot{\bar{U}} = \frac{\bar{U}_3 - 2\bar{U}_2 + \bar{U}_1}{\Delta t^2} \quad (10)$$

$$\bar{U} = \sum_{i=-3}^{+3} C_i U_{n+i} \quad \text{when } 3 \leq n \leq 14 \quad (11)$$

where the  $C$ 's may be found in Column B of Table 1.

$$\dot{\bar{U}} = \frac{\bar{U}_{n+1} - \bar{U}_{n-1}}{2\Delta t} \quad \text{when } 3 \leq n \leq 14 \quad (12)$$

$$\ddot{\bar{U}} = \frac{\bar{U}_{n+1} - 2\bar{U}_n + \bar{U}_{n-1}}{\Delta t^2} \quad \text{when } 3 \leq n \leq 14 \quad (13)$$

$$\bar{U}_n = \sum_{i=-15}^{+15} C_i U_{n+i} \quad \text{when } 15 \leq n \leq 24 \quad (14)$$

where the  $C$ 's may be found in Column D of Table 1.

For  $\dot{\bar{U}}_n$  and  $\ddot{\bar{U}}_n$  when  $15 \leq n \leq 24$  see Equations (12) and (13).

$$\bar{U} = \sum_{i=-25}^{+25} C_i U_{n+i} \quad \text{when } 25 \leq n \leq 49 \quad (15)$$

DECLASSIFIED

~~CONFIDENTIAL~~

where the C's may be found in Column F of Table 1.

For  $\dot{\bar{U}}_n$  and  $\ddot{\bar{U}}_n$  when  $25 \leq n \leq 49$  see Equations (12) and (13).

$$\sum_{i=-50}^{+50} C_i U_{n+i} \quad \text{when } 50 \leq n \leq 99 \quad (16)$$

where the C's may be found in Column G of Table 1.

For  $\dot{\bar{U}}_n$  and  $\ddot{\bar{U}}_n$  when  $50 \leq n \leq 99$  see Equations (12) and (13).

b. General equations of the first part

$$\bar{U}_n = \sum_{i=-50}^{+50} C_i U_{n+2i} \quad \text{when } 100 \leq n \leq (t_{co} - 101 \Delta t) \quad (17)$$

where the C's may be found in Column G of Table 1.

$$\frac{\bar{U}_{n+2} - \bar{U}_{n-2}}{4\Delta t} \quad (18)$$

$$\frac{\bar{U}_{n+2} - 2\bar{U}_n + \bar{U}_{n-2}}{2\Delta t^2} \quad (19)$$

c. Cutoff equations of the first part

For  $\bar{U}_n$ ,  $\dot{\bar{U}}_n$ ,  $\ddot{\bar{U}}_n$ :

when  $t_{co} - 100 \Delta t \leq n \leq t_{co} - 51 \Delta t$  see Equations (16), (12), (13).

when  $t_{co} - 50 \Delta t \leq n \leq t_{co} - 26 \Delta t$  see Equations (15), (12), (13).

$$\sum_{i=-10}^{+10} C_i U_{n+i} \quad \text{when } t_{co} - 25 \Delta t \leq n \leq t_{co} + 25 \Delta t \quad (20)$$

where the C's may be found in Column C of Table 1.

For  $\dot{\bar{U}}_n$ ,  $\ddot{\bar{U}}_n$  when  $t_{co} - 25 \Delta t \leq n \leq t_{co} + 25 \Delta t$  see Equations (12), (13).

~~CONFIDENTIAL~~

For  $\bar{U}_n, \dot{\bar{U}}_n, \ddot{\bar{U}}_n$ :

when  $t_{co} + 26 \Delta t \leq n \leq t_{co} + 50 \Delta t$  see Equations (15), (12), (13),

when  $t_{co} + 51 \Delta t \leq n \leq t_{co} + 100 \Delta t$  see Equations (16), (12), (13)

when  $t_{co} + 101 \Delta t \leq n \leq t_L - 100 \Delta t$  see Equations (17), (18), (19).

d. Terminal equations of the first part

For  $\bar{U}_n, \dot{\bar{U}}_n, \ddot{\bar{U}}_n$ :

when  $t_L - 99 \Delta t \leq n \leq t_L - 50 \Delta t$  see Equations (16), (12), (13),

when  $t_L - 49 \Delta t \leq n \leq t_L - 25 \Delta t$  see Equations (15), (12), (13),

when  $t_L - 24 \Delta t \leq n \leq t_L - 15 \Delta t$  see Equations (14), (12), (13),

when  $t_L - 14 \Delta t \leq n \leq t_L - 3 \Delta t$  see Equations (11), (12), (13).

$$\bar{U}_L = \sum_{i=-2}^{+2} c_i U_{L-2+i} \quad (21)$$

where  $c_i$  may be found in Column A of Table 1.

$$\dot{\bar{U}}_{L-1} = \frac{\bar{U}_{L-1} - \bar{U}_{L-3}}{2\Delta t} \quad (22)$$

$$\ddot{\bar{U}}_{L-2} = \frac{\bar{U}_{L-1} - 2\bar{U}_{L-2} + \bar{U}_{L-3}}{\Delta t^2} \quad (23)$$

$$\bar{U}_{L-1} = \frac{1}{5} (3\bar{U}_{L-1} + 2\bar{U}_{L-2} + \bar{U}_{L-3} - \bar{U}_{L-5}) \quad (24)$$

$$\dot{\bar{U}}_{L-1} = \frac{\bar{U}_L - \bar{U}_{L-2}}{2\Delta t} \quad (25)$$

$$\ddot{\bar{U}}_{L-1} = \frac{\bar{U}_L - 2\bar{U}_{L-1} + \bar{U}_{L-2}}{\Delta t^2} \quad (26)$$

$$\bar{U}_L = \frac{1}{5} (3\bar{U}_L + 2\bar{U}_{L-1} + \bar{U}_{L-2} - \bar{U}_{L-4}) \quad (27)$$

$$\bar{U}_L = \frac{1}{12\Delta t} (3\bar{U}_L - 16\bar{U}_{L-3} + 36\bar{U}_{L-2} - 48\bar{U}_{L-1} + 25\bar{U}_L) \quad (28)$$

$$\bar{U}_L = \frac{1}{12\Delta t^2} (11\bar{U}_{L-4} - 56\bar{U}_{L-3} + 114\bar{U}_{L-2} - 104\bar{U}_{L-1} + 35\bar{U}_L) \quad (29)$$

Discontinuities exist in the smooth data at the junction points between the different smoothing formulas. These discontinuities result in very wild derivatives at these points. Special treatment was necessary at these changeover points when seven point spread smoothing or greater was used. A maximum of four points of velocity and acceleration were replaced at each junction. These replacements were based on a second degree curve fit through the previous seven points of velocity and acceleration. The method of least squares was used for the curve fit.

e. Junction point replacement equations

$$\bar{U}_n = A_0 + A_1 t + A_2 t^2 \quad (30)$$

$$\bar{J}_n = B_0 + B_1 t + B_2 t^2$$

where  $A_0, A_1, A_2, B_0, B_1, B_2$  are the coefficients obtained by the above mentioned least squares curve fits.

f. General equations of the second part

$$\begin{aligned} \bar{U}_n &= \sum_{i=-20}^{+20} C_i \dot{\bar{U}}_{n+i} && \text{when } 20 \leq n \leq t_{co} - 51 \Delta t \text{ and} \\ & && \text{when } t_{CPL} + 51 \Delta t \leq n \leq t_L - 20 \Delta t \end{aligned} \quad (32)$$

where C's may be found in Column E of Table 1.

$$\begin{aligned} \bar{U}_n &= \sum_{i=-20}^{+20} C_i \ddot{\bar{U}}_{n+i} && \text{when } 20 \leq n \leq t_{co} - 51 \Delta t \text{ and} \\ & && \text{when } t_{CPL} + 51 \Delta t \leq n \leq t_L - 20 \Delta t \end{aligned}$$

where C's may be found in Column E of Table 1.

g. Cutoff equation of the second part

$$\bar{U}_n = A_0 + A_1 t + A_2 t^2 \quad \text{when } t_{co} - 50 \Delta t \leq n \leq t_{co} \quad (34)$$

DECLASSIFIED

This second degree curve fit is obtained by applying the method of least squares to the one hundred points preceding  $t_{CO}$ .

$$\frac{U}{U_0} = B_0 + B_1 t - B_2 t^2 \quad \text{when } t_{CPL} \leq n \leq t_{CPL} + 50 \Delta t \quad (35)$$

This second degree curve fit is obtained by applying the method of least squares to the one hundred points following  $t_{CPL}$ .

The actual calculations in the program are carried out in two distinct passes through the data. The smoothing of the positions and the calculation of velocities and accelerations are done in the first pass. The application of the various formulas of the first pass to the particular parts of the trajectory is summarized in Figure 1. Details of the application of the smoothing formulas in the first pass are illustrated in Figures 3 through 5.

The smoothing of velocities and accelerations and the curve fitting of accelerations in the vicinity of cutoff are done in the second pass. The application of the various formulas of the second pass to the particular parts of the trajectory is summarized in Figure 2.

### Effects

The significant factor concerning these smoothing and differentiation procedures is their effectiveness in producing smooth and realistic velocity and acceleration data. Figures 6 through 8 show velocities which were calculated by the current smoothing and differentiation program. The data used in the calculations were at a one-tenth second time interval whereas the data used in the graphs were selected at one second time intervals. Figures 9 through 13 show segments of the velocity data on a smaller scale in order to illustrate effectively the local smoothness. These data are at the one-tenth second time interval which was used in the calculations. Figures 14 through 16 show accelerations which were calculated by the current smoothing and differentiation program. The data used in the calculations were at one-tenth second time interval whereas the data used in the graphs were selected at one-second time intervals. Figures 17 through 21 show segments of the acceleration data on a smaller scale in order to illustrate effectively the local smoothness. These data are at the one-tenth second time interval which was used in the calculations.

It will be noted that some problem areas remain in these procedures. The discontinuities in accelerations at the end points of the curve fit data preceding and following cutoff represent a difficulty which needs further improvement. The noise and oscillations which remain in the acceleration data for the period of thrust decay represent another problem area. These difficulties are clearly manifested in Figures 20 and 21 and will be eliminated as time permits.

DECLASSIFIED

It is sometimes desirable to have a quantitative measure of the dispersion of the noise in order to compare the relative merits of different smoothing techniques. In order to estimate the dispersion of noise in our positions, velocities and accelerations a curve fitting program was used to fit these smooth data at successive time intervals. A second degree polynomial was fitted to each ten-second interval and residuals were calculated. The standard deviation of the residuals was calculated for each interval. It was assumed that the second degree polynomial was capable of following the general trend of the data over most of the ten-second intervals. It was also assumed that the second-degree polynomial was not capable of following the noise or other minor fluctuations in a ten-second interval. Therefore the standard deviation of the residuals should be a fair estimate of the noise level of the smoothed data. Figures 22 through 30 show these calculated standard deviations for the smoothed positions, velocities and accelerations. Generally the noise level in smooth UDOP positions is less than 2.0 meters, in smooth UDOP velocities is less than .07 meter per second, and in smooth UDOP accelerations is less than .02 meter per second per second.

The achievement of smoothness is of little value if it is attained at the expense of gross distortion of the original data. It would certainly not be feasible to use smoothing formulas which regularly produced systematic errors which exceed the noise level of the smoothed data. It was therefore desirable to determine the magnitude of systematic errors produced by our current smoothing and differentiation procedures. A synthetic trajectory program was used to generate smooth positions, velocities and accelerations representative of a typical missile flight. These smooth positions were then used as input to our current smoothing and differentiation program. These smoothed positions, velocities and accelerations were then differenced with the smooth positions, velocities and accelerations generated by the synthetic trajectory. The differences indicate systematic errors introduced by the smoothing and differentiation program. Figures 31 through 39 show these differences. As might be expected the differences only become appreciable at times of radical physical change such as main engine cutoff (157.77 seconds), vernier engine ignition (166.28 seconds), and vernier engine cutoff (176.29 seconds).

### SECTION III (S) CONCLUSIONS

It may be concluded that the current smoothing and differentiation procedures are satisfactory for most parts of a typical missile test flight and for typical tracking instrumentation. The exceptions are the times of rapid physical change such as main engine cutoff, vernier engine ignition, and vernier engine cutoff. The attainment of equivalent accuracy at these times requires additional observation and special treatment. Investigation of these possibilities will proceed as time permits.

DECLASSIFIED

The noise level in the smooth UDOP positions is generally less than 2.0 meters. In the smooth UDOP velocities the noise level is generally less than .07 meter per second and in the smooth UDOP accelerations is generally less than .02 meter per second per second. The systematic errors introduced by the smoothing and differentiation procedures are generally less than the noise levels of the smooth data.



# GENERAL DEFERRICK COEFFICIENTS

i	C <sub>i</sub>						
	A	B	C	D	E	F	G
-50							-.00002743
-49							-.00010058
-48							-.00022983
-47							-.00041900
-46							-.00066634
-45							-.00096567
-44							-.00130722
-43							-.00167849
-42							-.00206506
-41							-.00245117
-40							-.00282041
-39							-.00315619
-38							-.00344223
-37							-.00366293
-36							-.00380373
-35							-.00385142
-34							-.00379429
-33							-.00362241
-32							-.00332768
-31							-.00290399
-30							-.00234725
-29							-.00165542
-28							-.00082850
-27							.00013152
-26							.00122070
-25						-.00032438	.00243325
-24						-.00108383	.00376162
						.00221633	.00519666

TABLE

	A	B	C	E	F
-22					-.00363836
-21					-.00508775
-20				-.00068479	-.00635536
-19				-.00217926	-.00721713
-18				-.00424676	-.00746965
-17				-.00644783	-.00694741
-16				-.00826372	-.00553220
-15			-.00171211	-.00918903	-.00315853
-14			-.00500293	-.00879756	.00018451
-13			-.00875514	-.00678499	.00445470
-12			-.01150094	-.00299216	.00956047
-11			-.01186182	.00258781	.01536678
-10			-.00882682	.00981543	.02170263
-9			-.00189905	.01842084	.02836945
-8			-.01761357	.00886228	.02802735
-7			-.01289565	.02287915	.03515033
-6			.00311907	.03914878	.04181938
-5			.02962788	.05637424	.04815117
-4			.06303804	.07311382	.05392963
-3		-.05874125	.09795617	.08793353	.05895644
-2	-.07342657	.05874125	.12842263	.09954972	.06305848
-1	.29370629	.29370629	.14913596	.10695119	.06609416
0	.55944055	.41258741	.13646914	.0949229	.06795860
+1	.29370629	.29370629	.14913596	.10695119	.06858732
+2	-.07342657	.05874125	.12842263	.09954972	.06795860
+3		-.05874125	.09795617	.08793353	.06609416
+4			.06303804	.07311382	.06305848
+5			.02962788	.05637424	.05895644
+6			.00311907	.03914878	.05392963
+7			.01289565	.02287915	.04815117
					.04181938
					.03515033
					.03138529
					.03245574
					.03337550
					.03414001
					.03474215
					.03517629
					.03543841
					.03552606
					.03543841
					.03517629
					.03474215
					.03414001
					.03337550
					.03245574
					.03138529
					.02836945
					.02741519
					.02587324
					.02424568
					.02254753
					.02079439
					.01900233
					.01718766
					.01536678
					.01355607
					.01177154
					.01002880
					.00834281
					.00663836

G<sub>1</sub>

TABLE 1 (Continued)

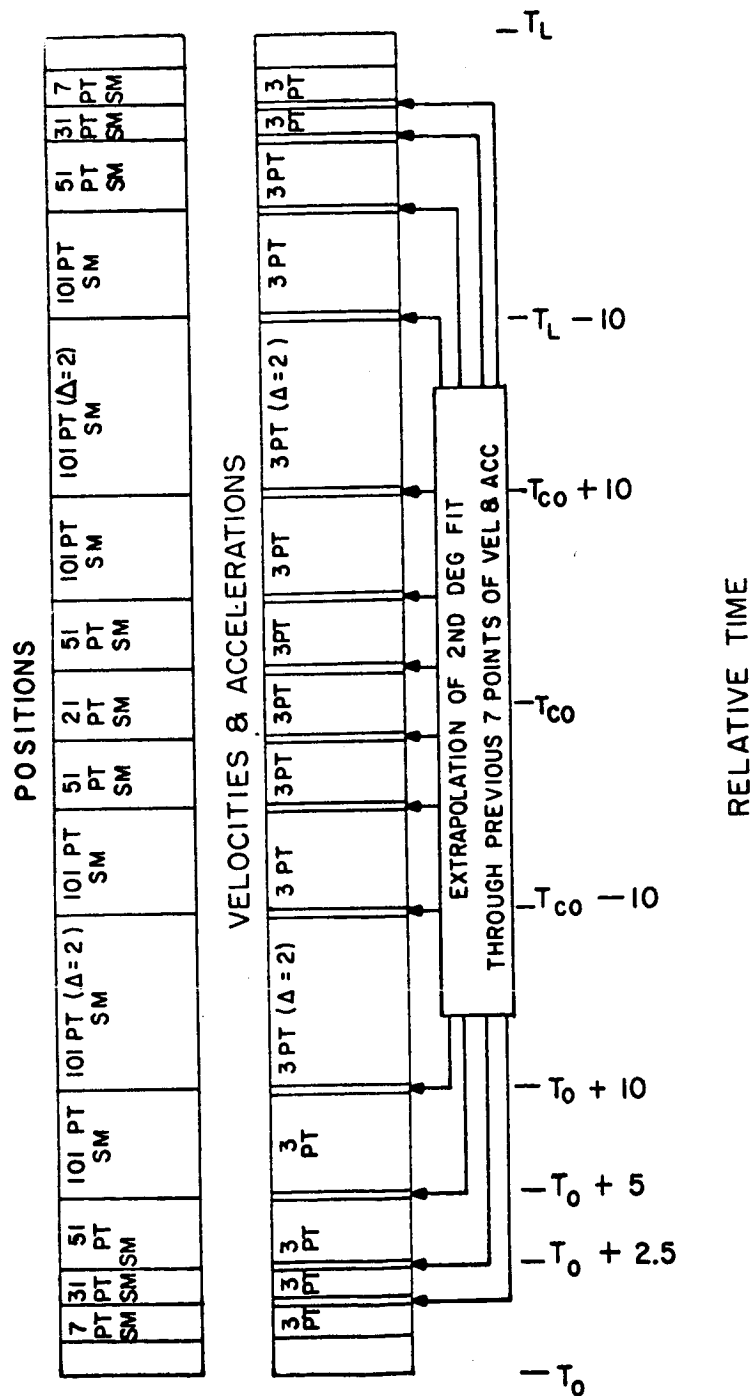
i	A	B	C	D	E	F	G
+8			-.01761357	.00886228	.02802735	.03515033	.03018
+9			-.01345481	-.00189905	.01842084	.02836945	.028857
+10			-.00557029	-.00882682	.00981543	.02170263	.027415
+11				-.01186182	.00258781	.01536678	.025873
+12				-.01150094	-.00299216	.00956047	.02424568
+13				-.00875514	-.00678499	.00445470	.02254753
+14				-.00500293	-.00879756	.00018451	.02079439
+15				-.00171211	-.00918903	-.00315853	.01900233
+16					-.00826372	-.00553220	.01718766
+17					-.00644783	-.00694741	.01536100
+18					-.00424676	-.00746965	.01355607
+19					-.00217926	-.00721713	.01177154
+20					-.00068479	-.00635536	.01002880
+21						-.00508725	.00834281
+22						-.00363836	.00672771
+23						-.00223633	.00519666
+24						-.00108383	.00376162
+25						-.00032438	.00243325
+26							.00122070
+27							.00013152
+28							-.00082850
+29							-.00165542
+30							-.00234725
+31							-.00290399
+32							-.00332768
+33							-.00362241
+34							-.00379429
+35							-.00385142
+36							-.00380373

[illegible]

DECLASSIFIED

(U) REFERENCES

1. Dederick, L. S., Construction and Selection of Smoothing Formulas. Report No. 863, Ballistic Research Laboratories; Aberdeen Proving Ground, Maryland. 1953
2. Beard, L. Neel and MacGowan, Roger A., Oscillations In Tracking Data Resulting from Roundoff. Report No. DC-TR-1-60, Army Ballistic Missile Agency, Computation Laboratory; Redstone Arsenal, Alabama. 1960
3. Beard, L. Neel and MacGowan, Roger A., Oscillatory Phenomena In Empirical Data Resulting from the Smoothing of Random Noise. Report No. DC-TR-3-60, Army Ballistic Missile Agency, Computation Laboratory; Redstone Arsenal, Alabama. 1960





RECEIVED

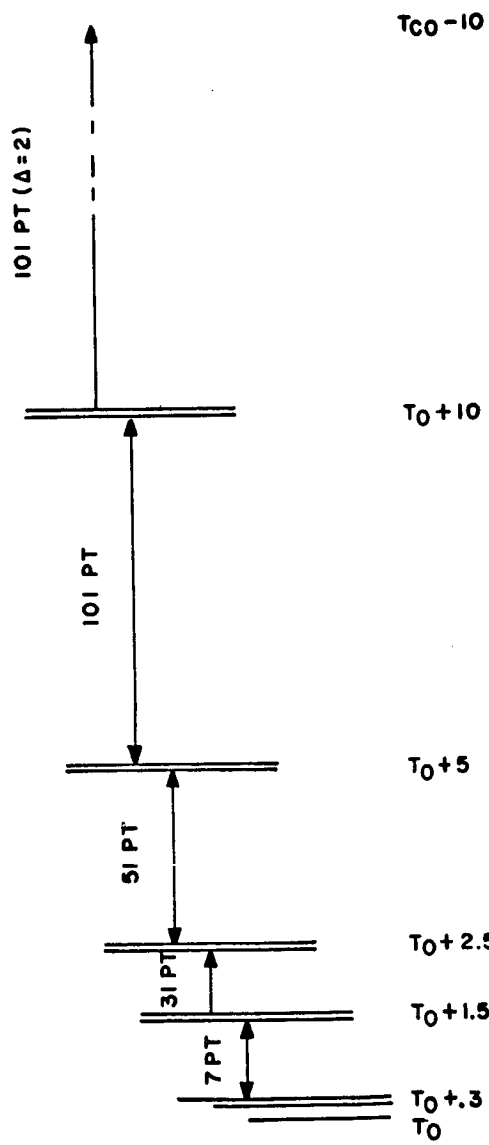


FIG. 3. INITIAL SECTION OF FIRST PASS



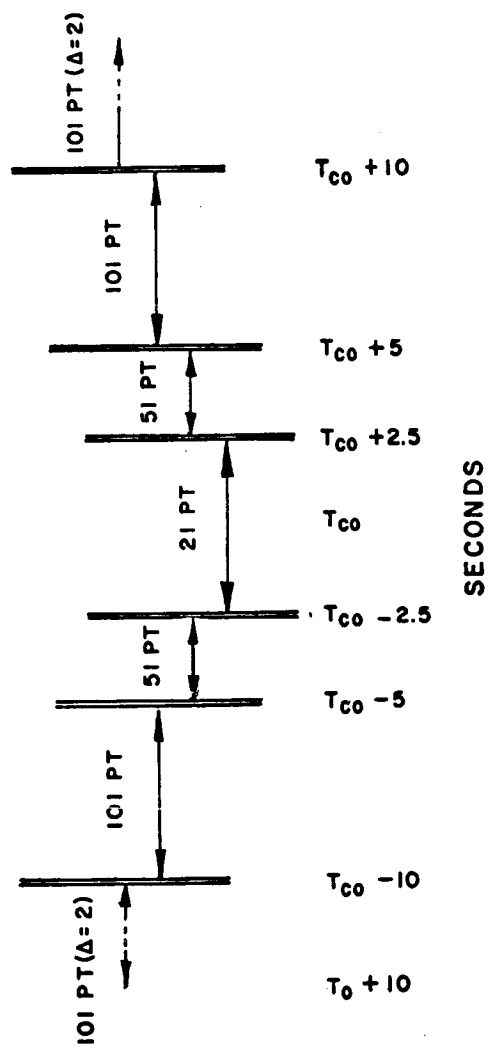


FIG. 4. CUTOFF SECTION OF FIRST PASS

DECLASSIFIED

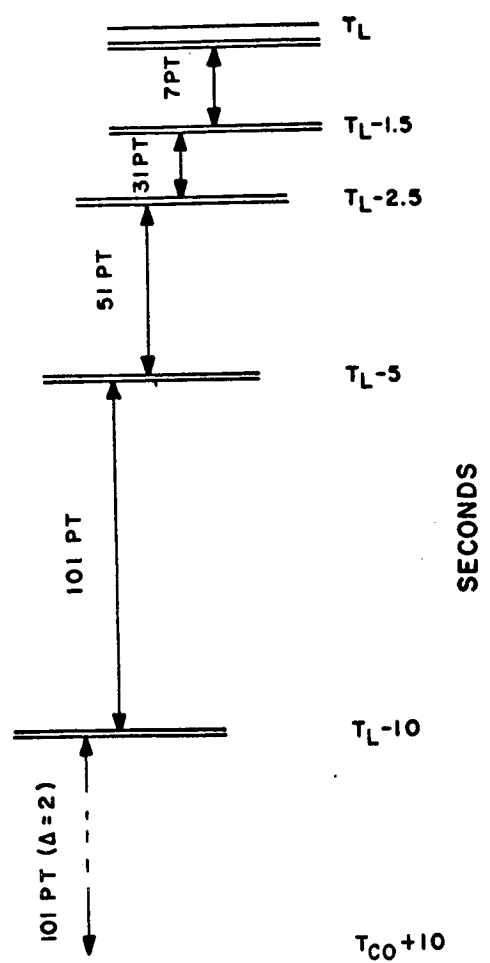


FIG. 5. FINAL SECTION OF FIRST PASS

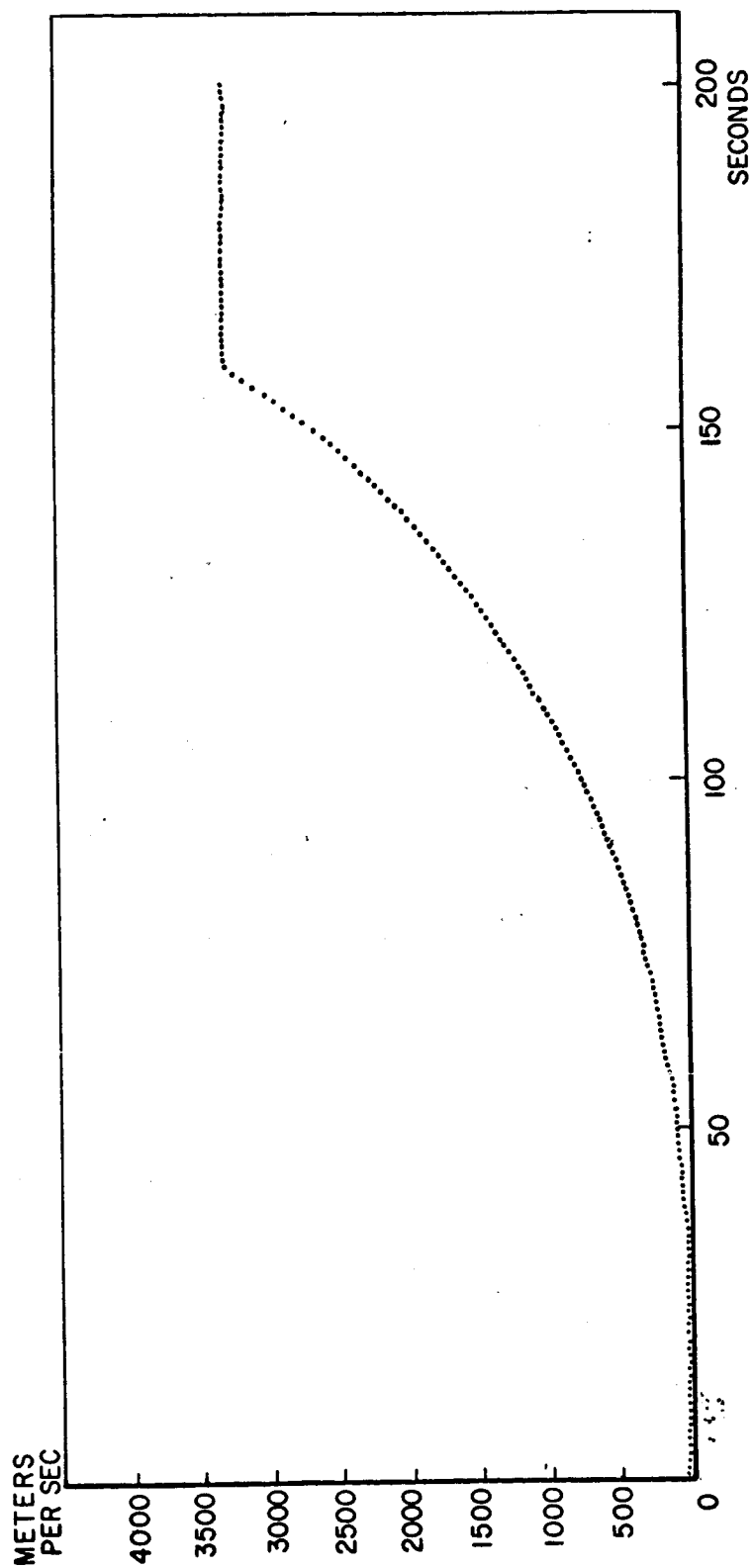


FIG 6. SMOOTH X VELOCITY UDOP ( 0 to 200 sec )

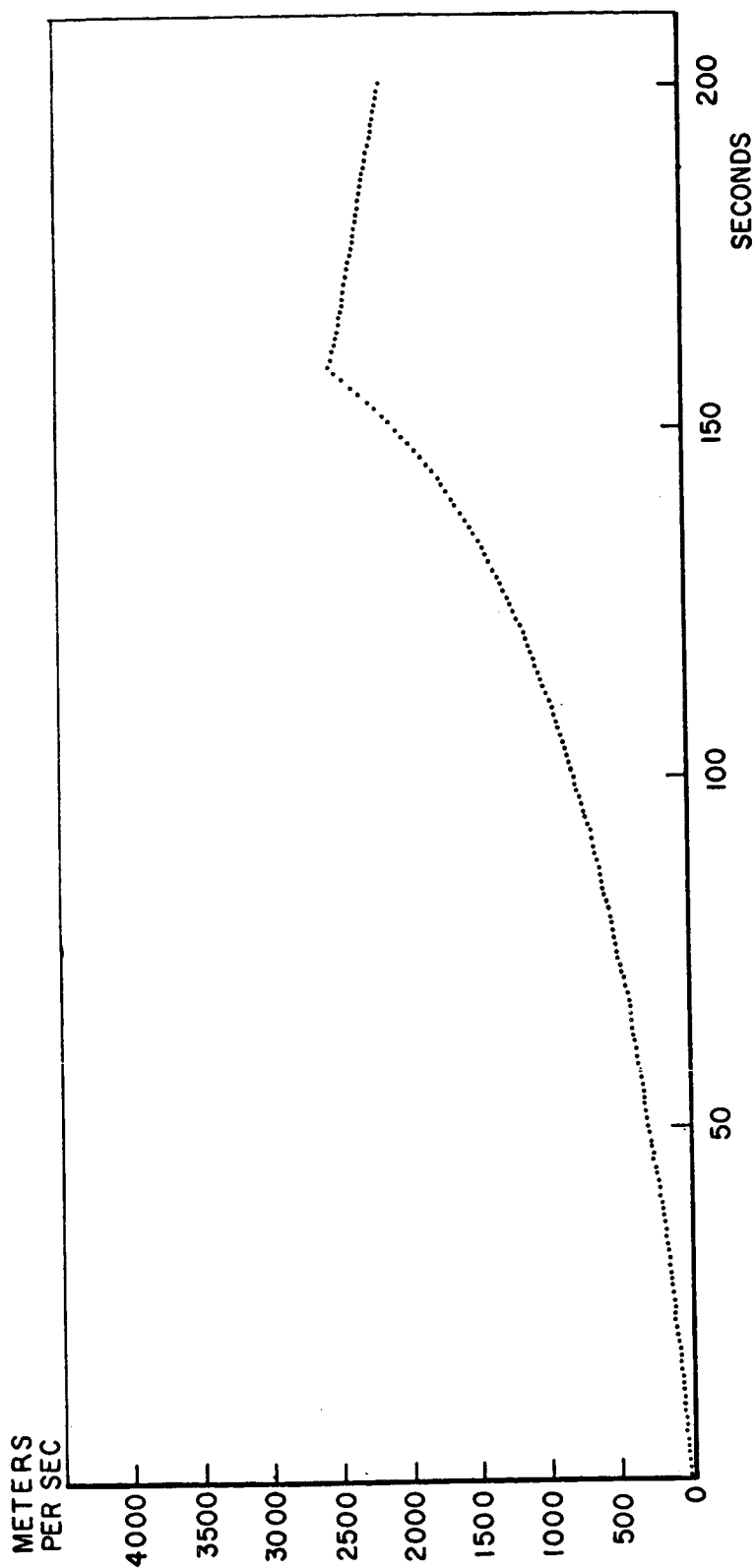


FIG 7. SMOOTH Y VELOCITY UDOP (0 to 200 sec)

DECLASSIFIED

DECLASSIFIED

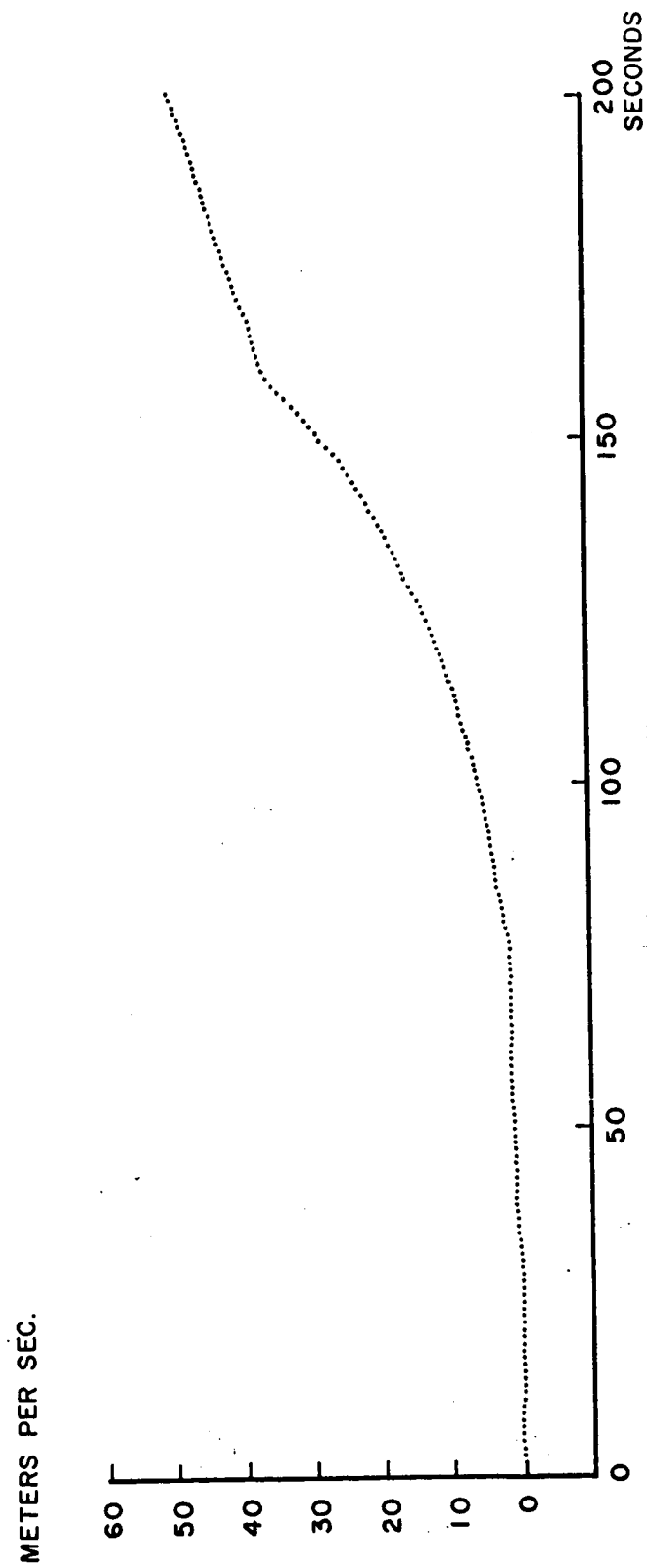


FIG. 8. SMOOTH Z VELOCITY UDOP (0 TO 200 SECONDS)

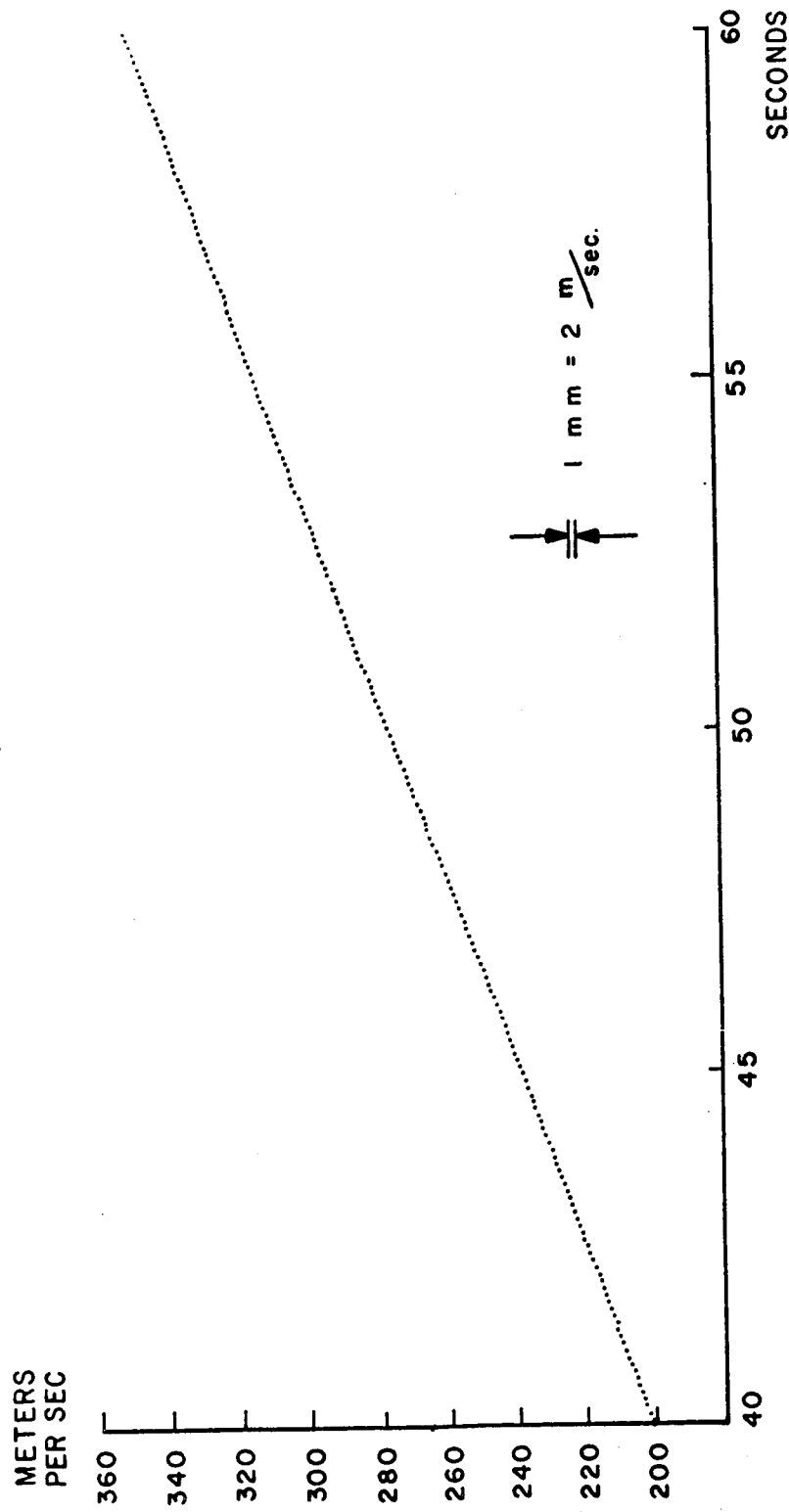


FIG. 9. SMOOTH Y VELOCITY UDOP (40 TO 60 SECONDS)

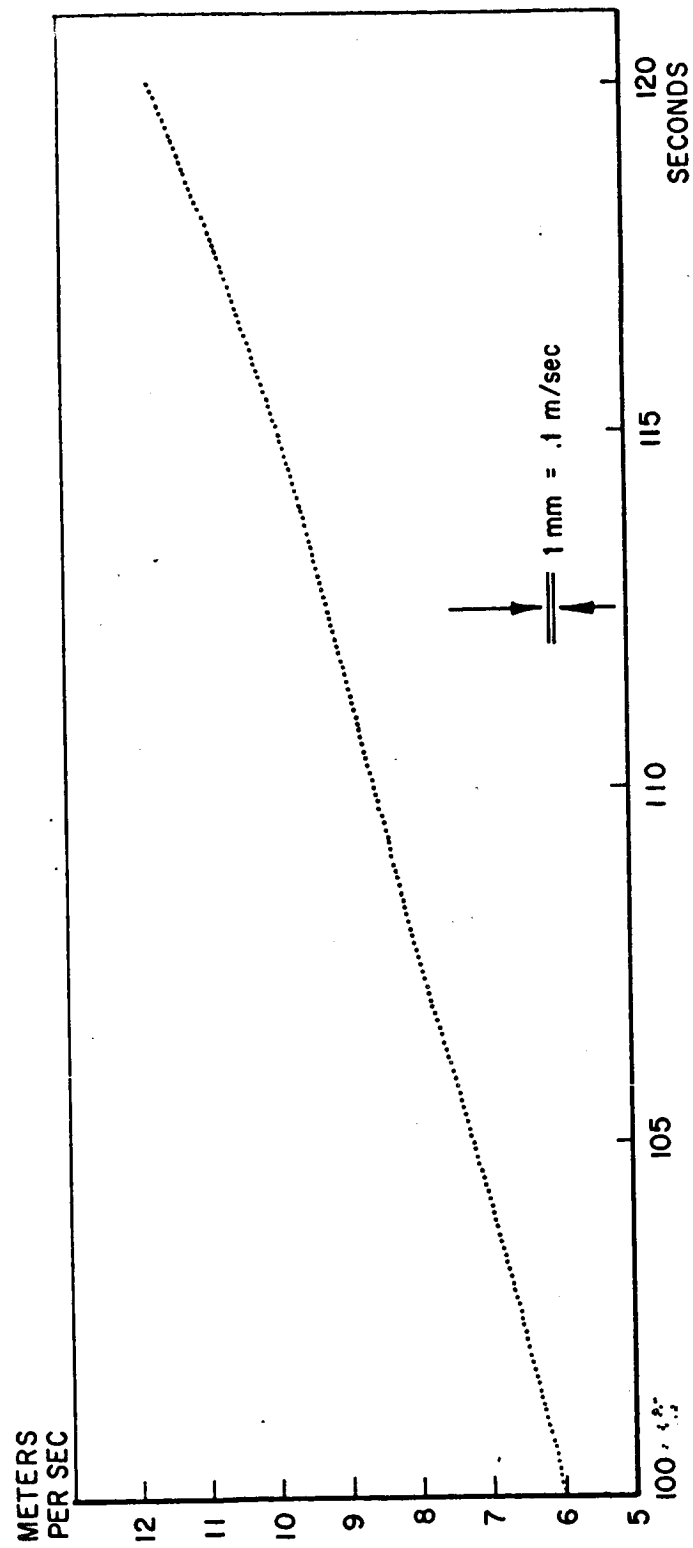


FIG 10. SMOOTH Z VELOCITY UDOP (100 to 120 sec)

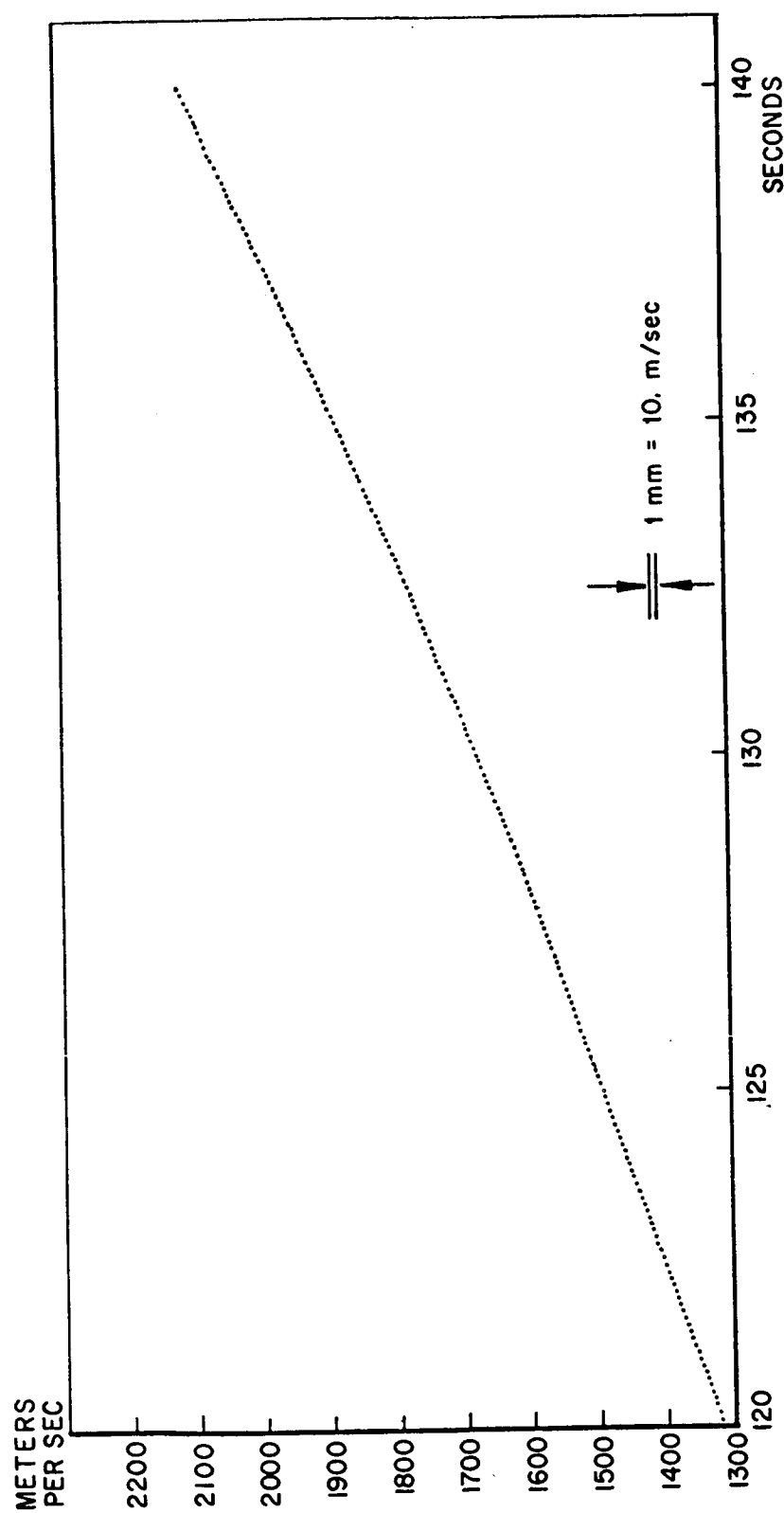


FIG II. SMOOTH X VELOCITY UDOP (120 to 140 sec)



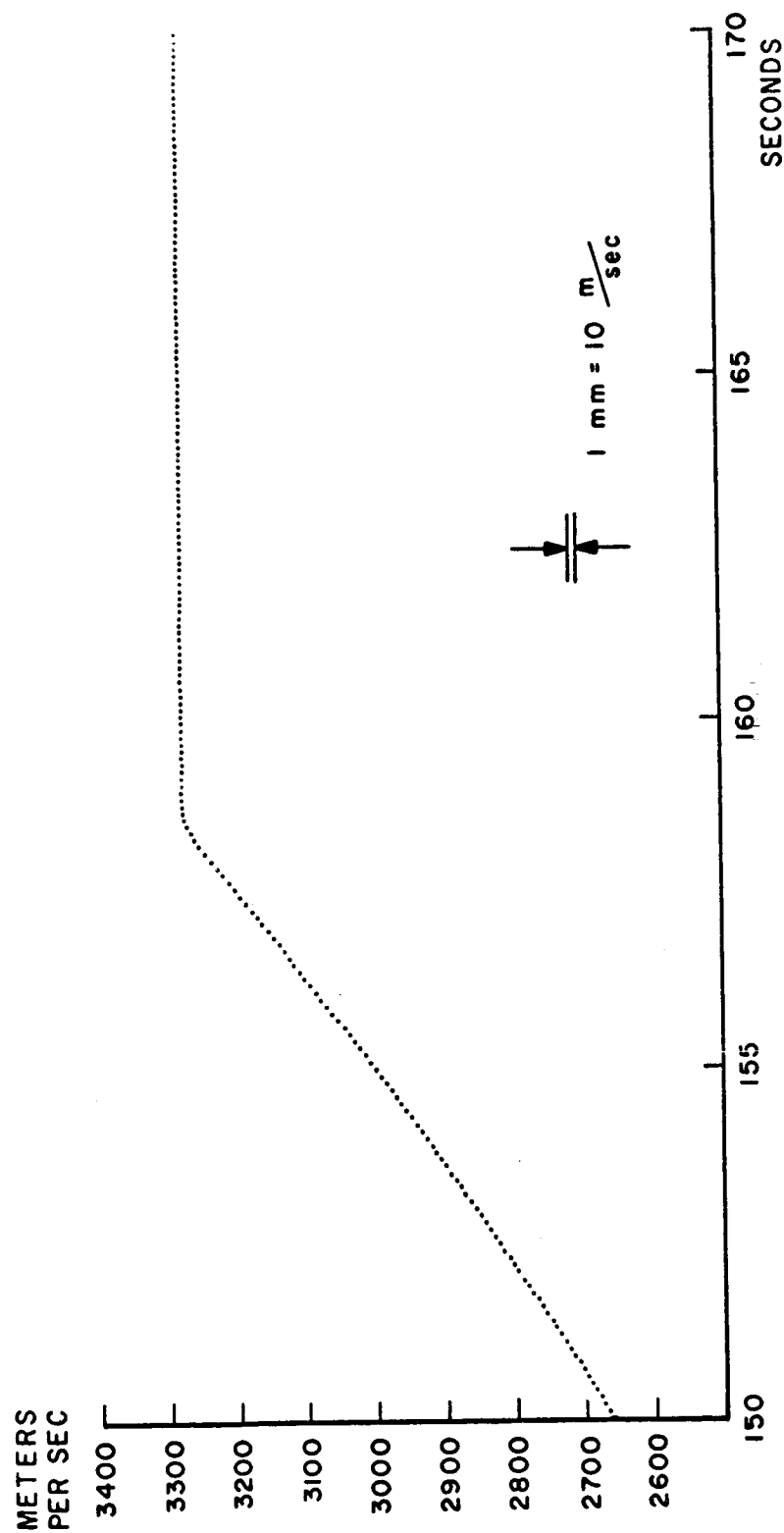


FIG. 12. SMOOTH X VELOCITY UDOP (150 TO 170 SECONDS)

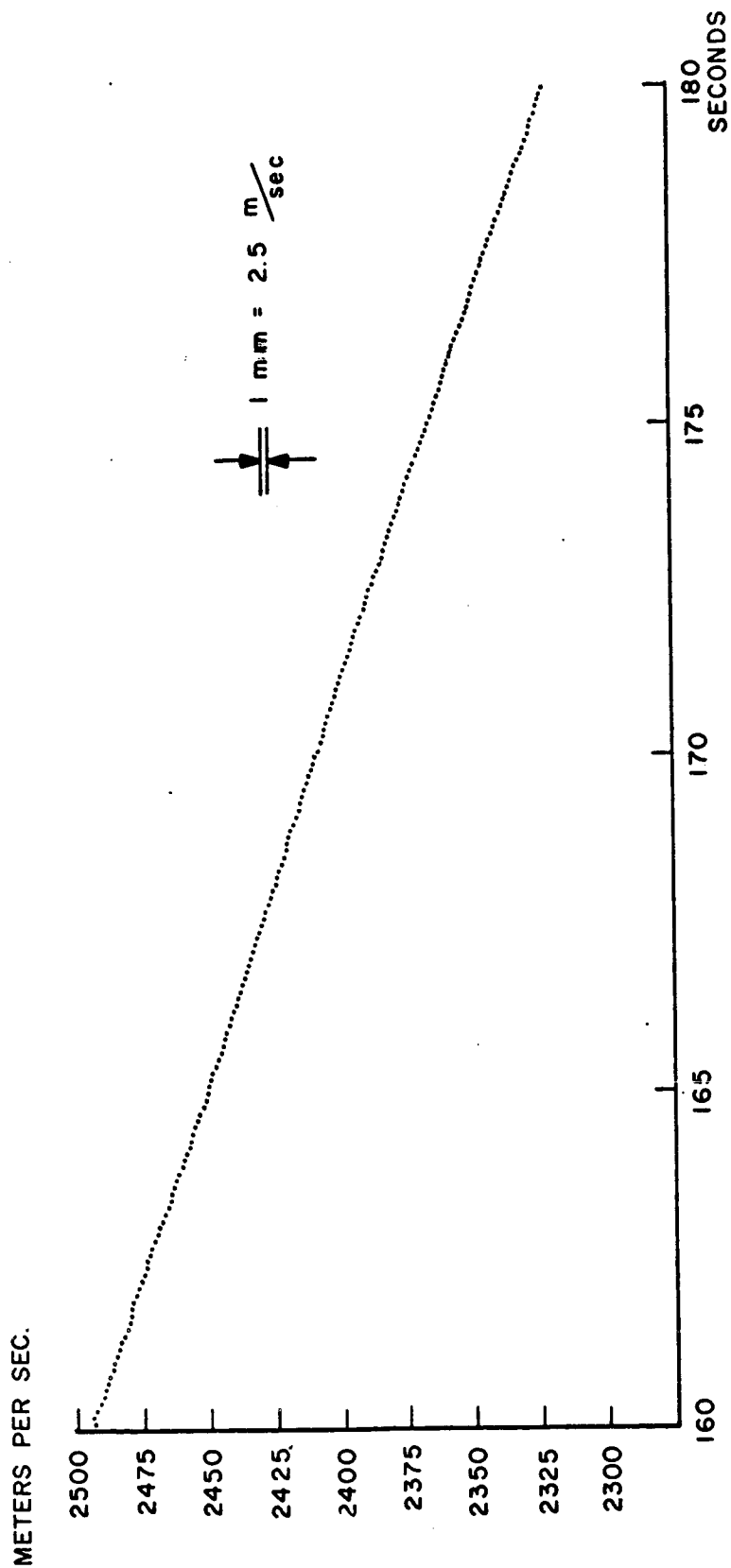


FIG. 13. SMOOTH Y VELOCITY UDOP (160 TO 180 SECONDS)

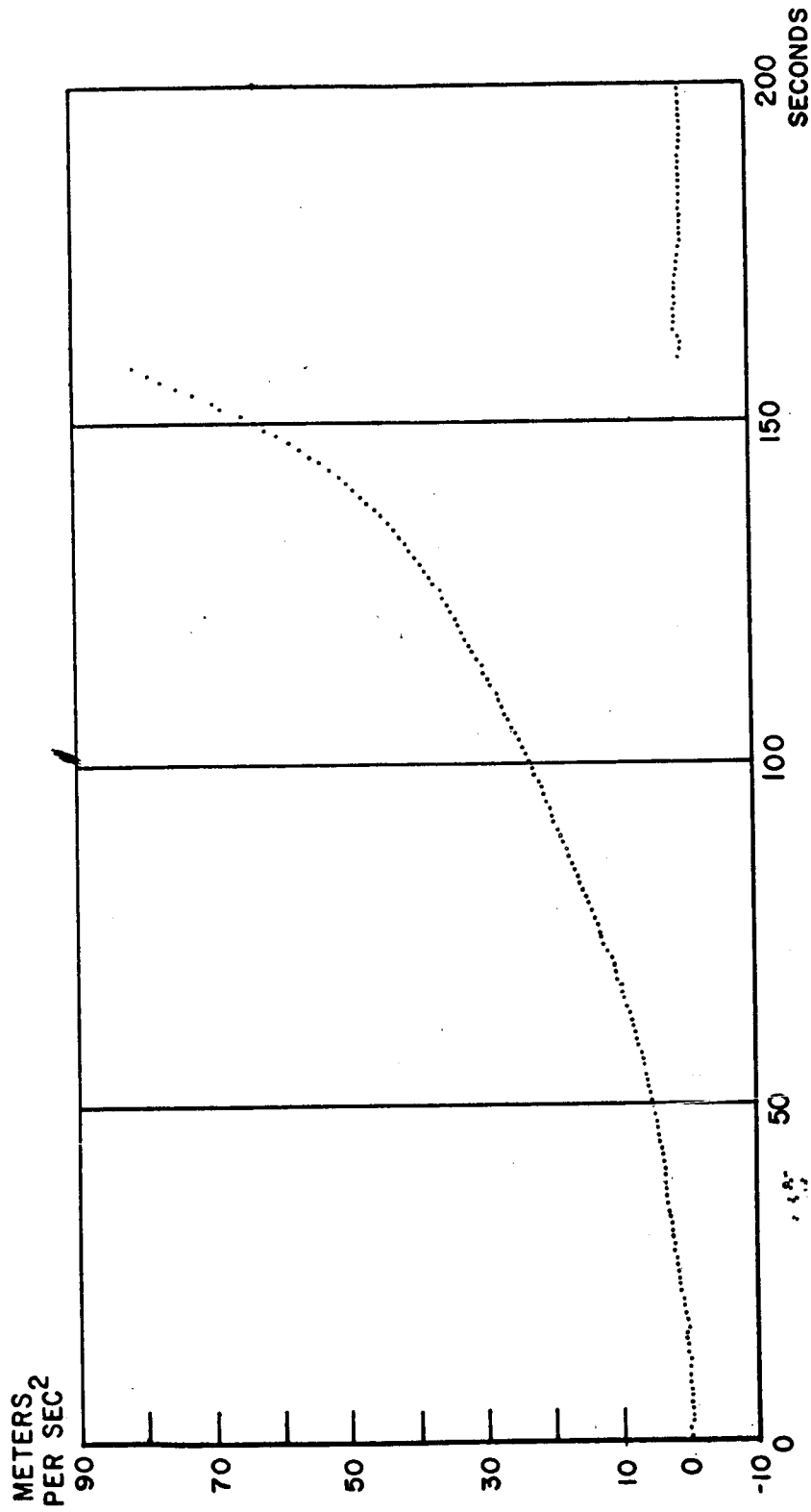


FIG 14 SMOOTH X ACCELERATION UDOP (0 TO 200 SECONDS)

DECLASSIFIED

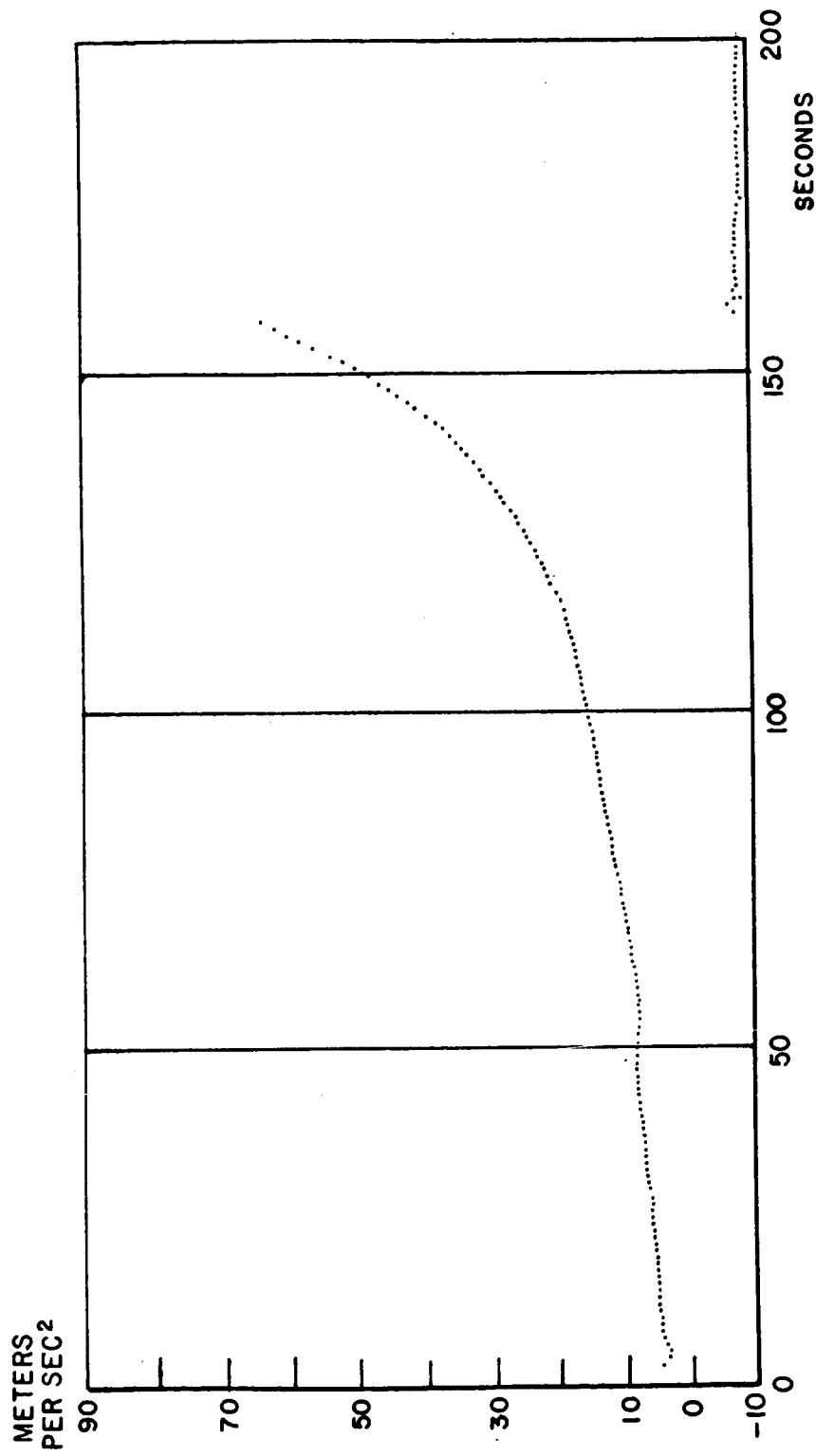


FIG 15 SMOOTH Y ACCELERATION UDOP (0 TO 200 SECONDS)

DECLASSIFIED

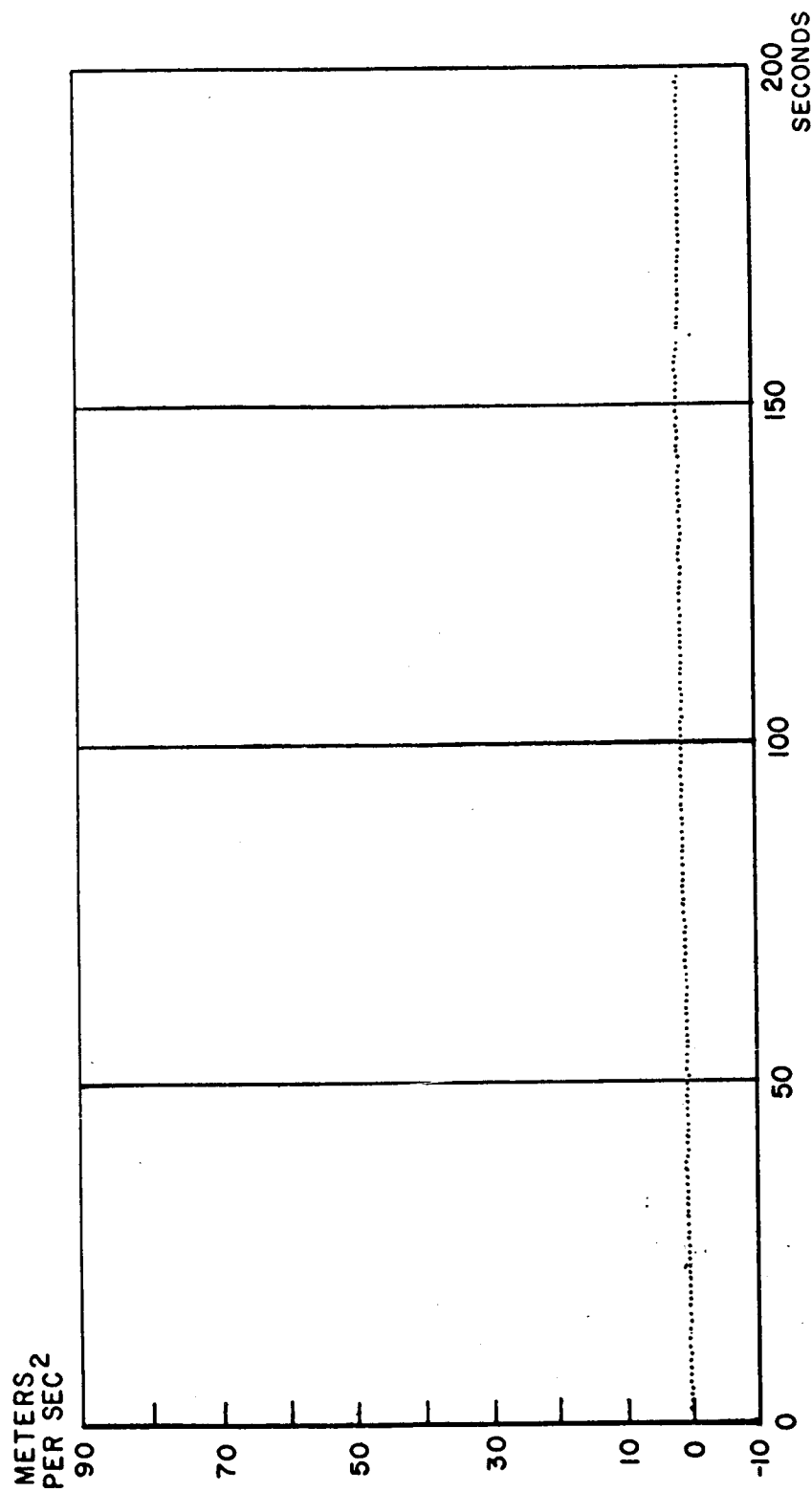


FIG 16 SMOOTH Z ACCELERATION UDOP (0 TO 200 SECONDS)

DECLASSIFIED

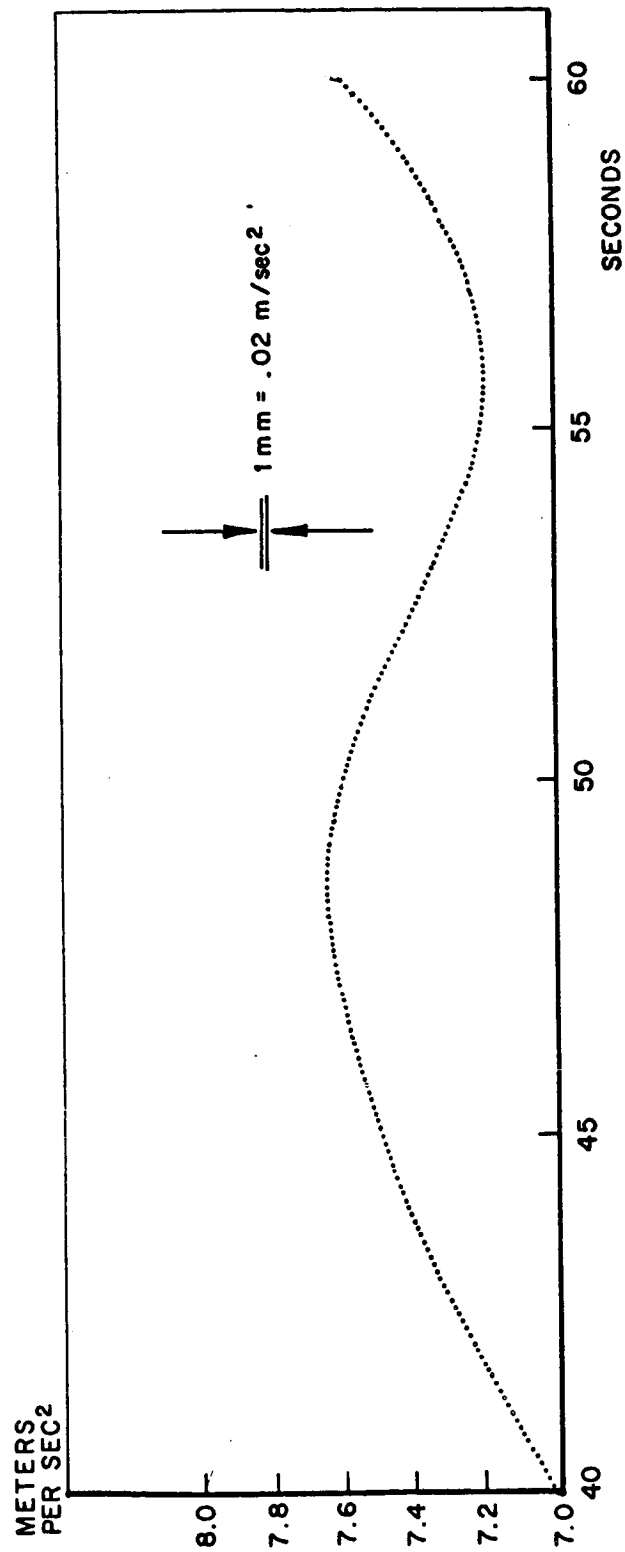


FIG 17. SMOOTH Y ACCELERATION UDOP (40 to 60 sec)

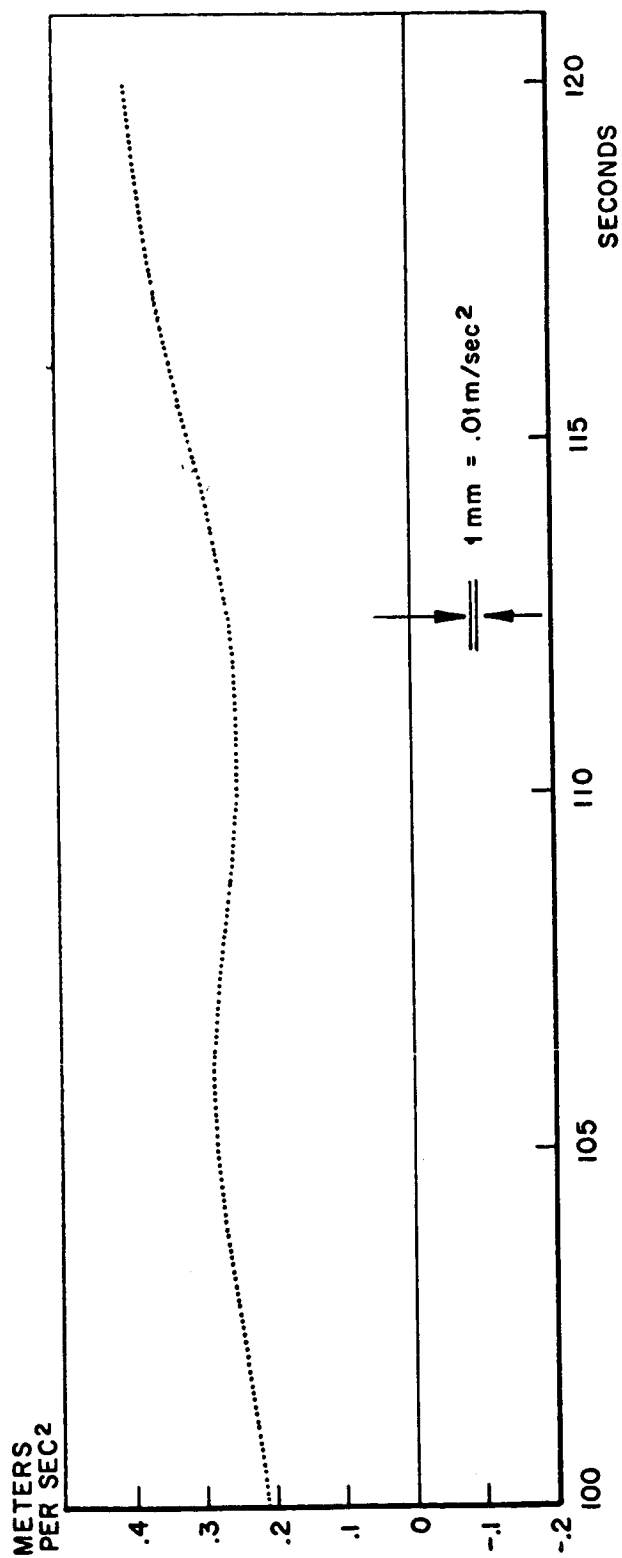


FIG 18. SMOOTH Z ACCELERATION UDOP (100 to 120 sec)

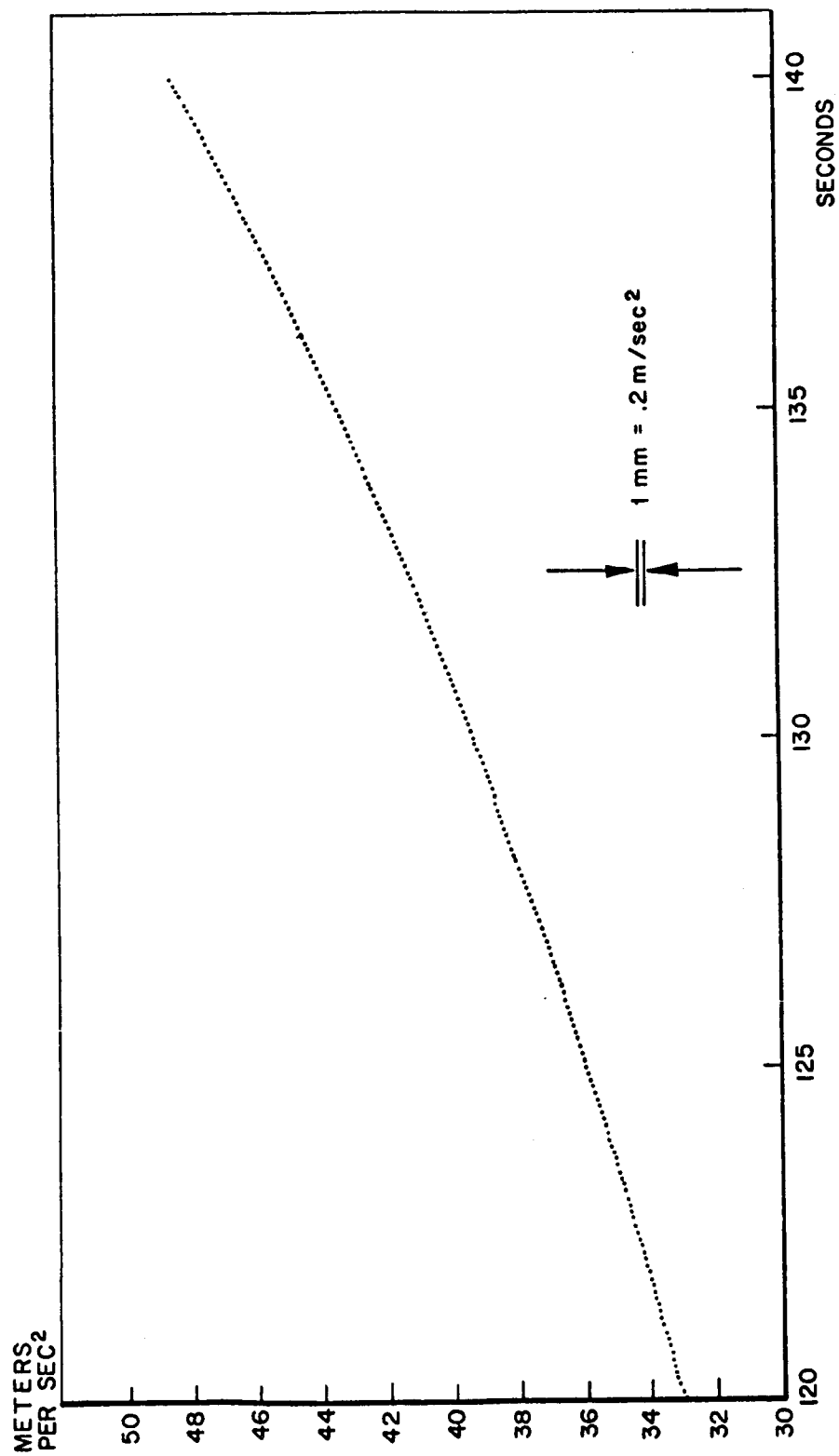


FIG 19. SMOOTH X ACCELERATION UDOP (120 to 140 sec)



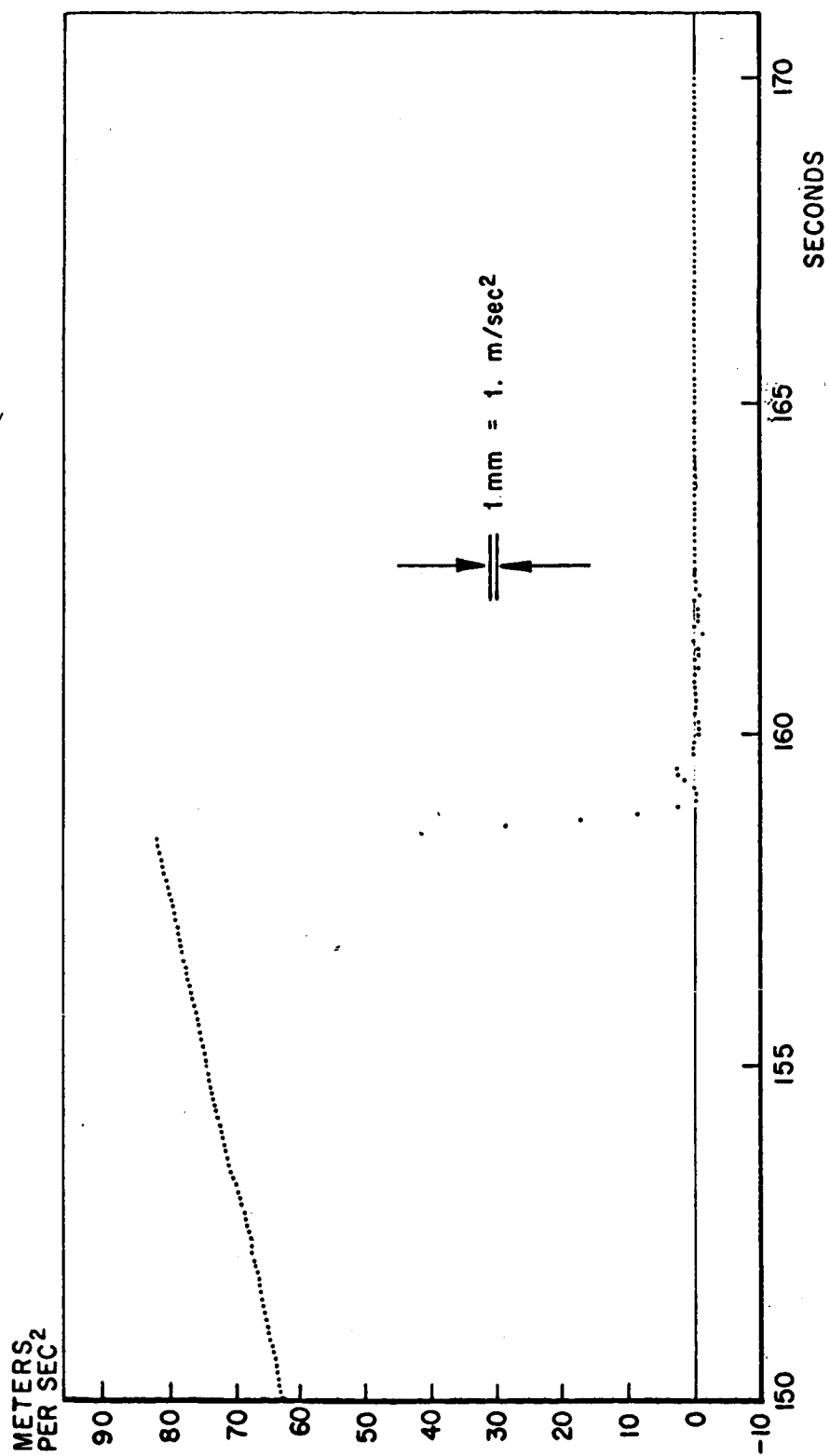


FIG 20. SMOOTH X ACCELERATION UDOP (150 to 170 sec)

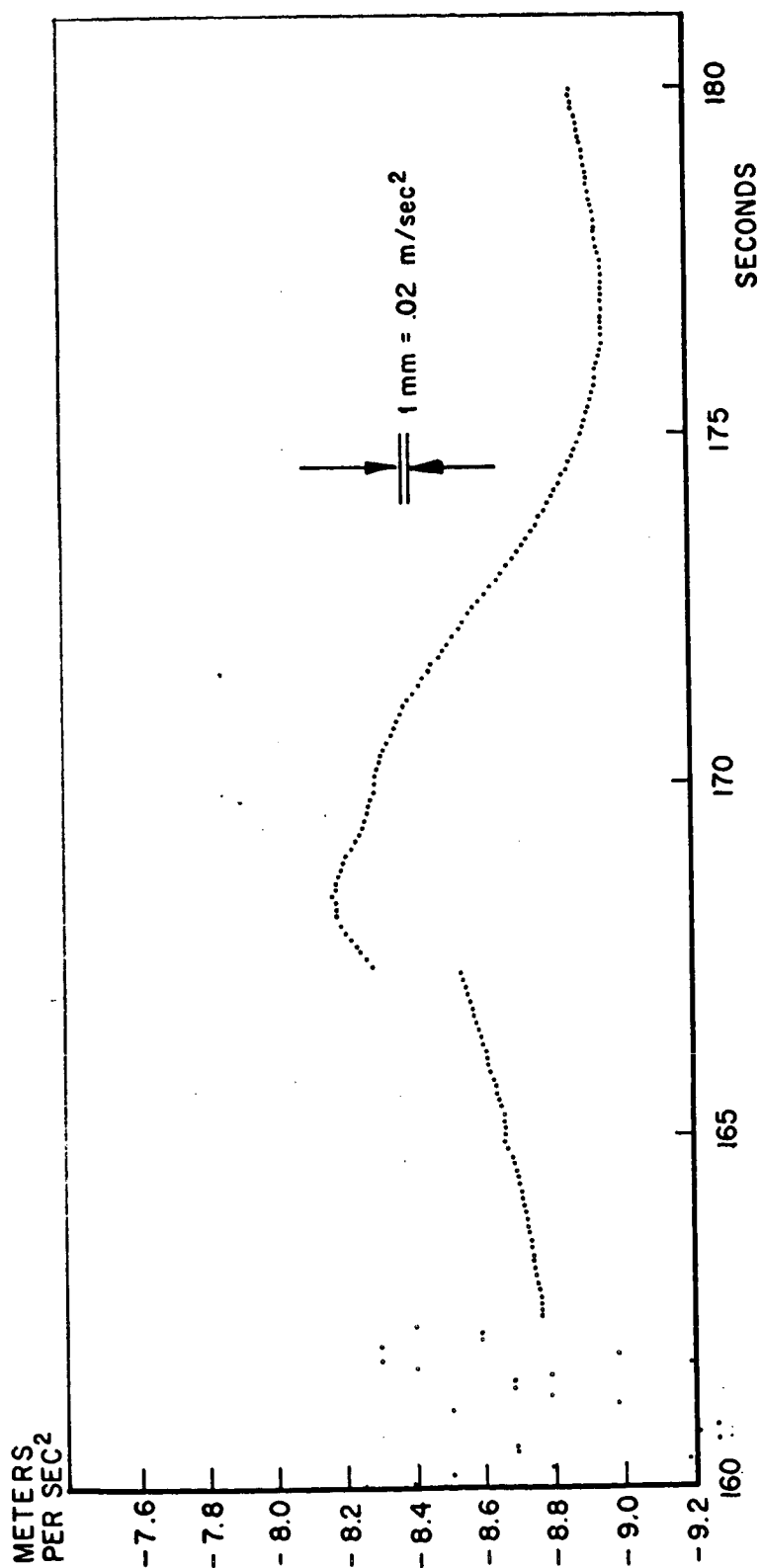


FIG 21. SMOOTH Y ACCELERATION UDOP (160 to 180 sec)

DECLASSIFIED

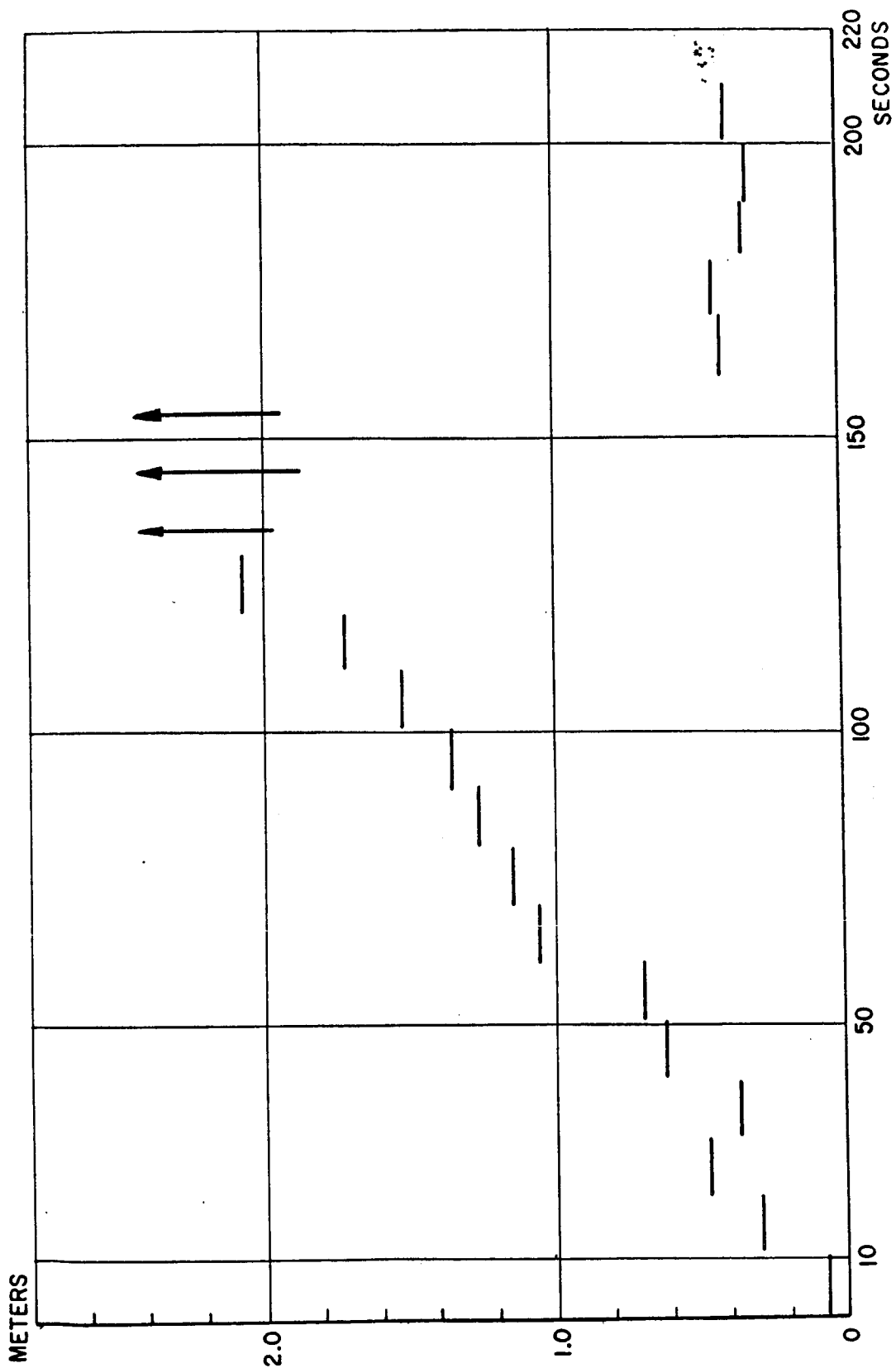
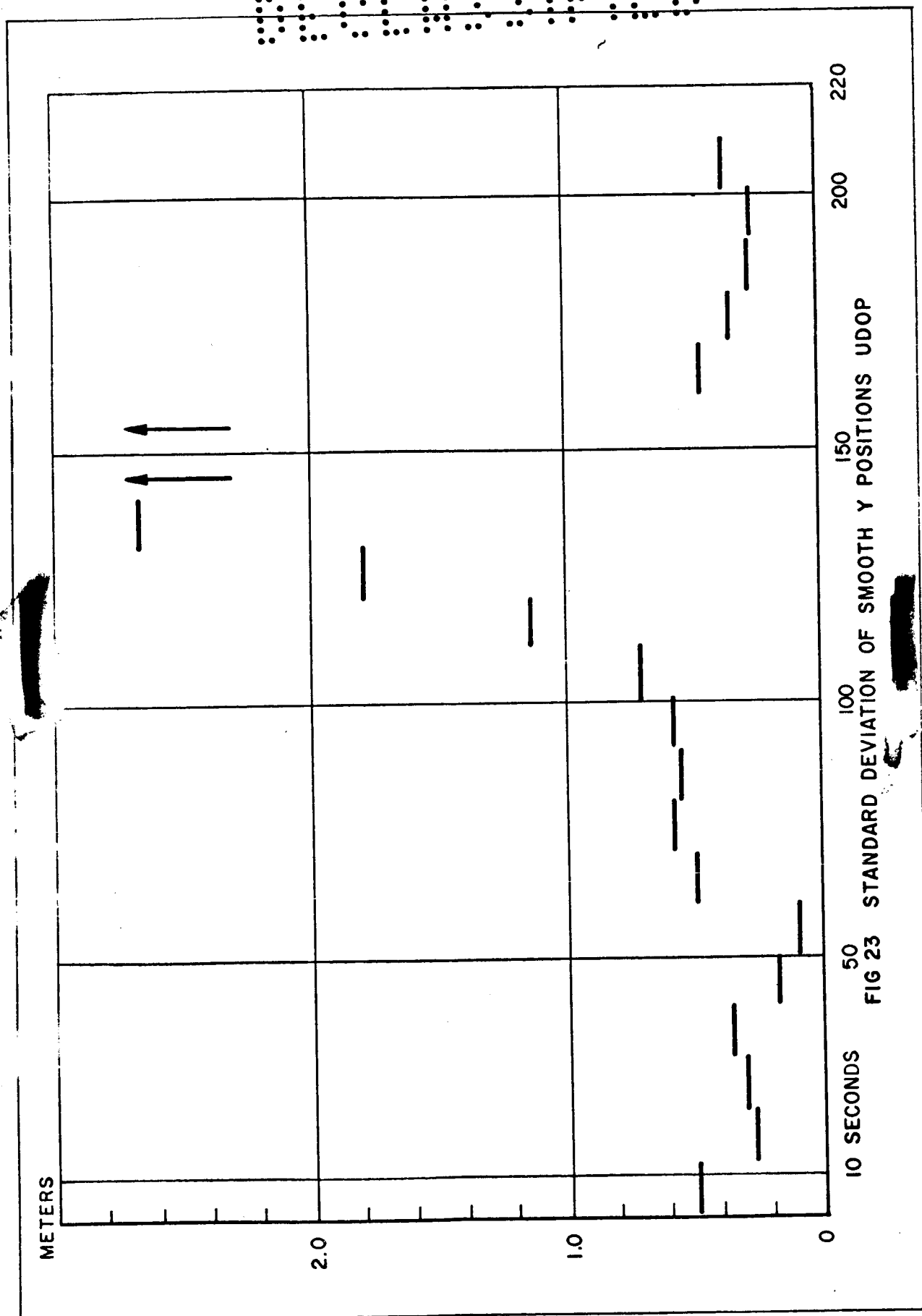


FIG. 22 STANDARD DEVIATION OF SMOOTH X POSITIONS UDOP

DECLASSIFIED



DECLASSIFIED

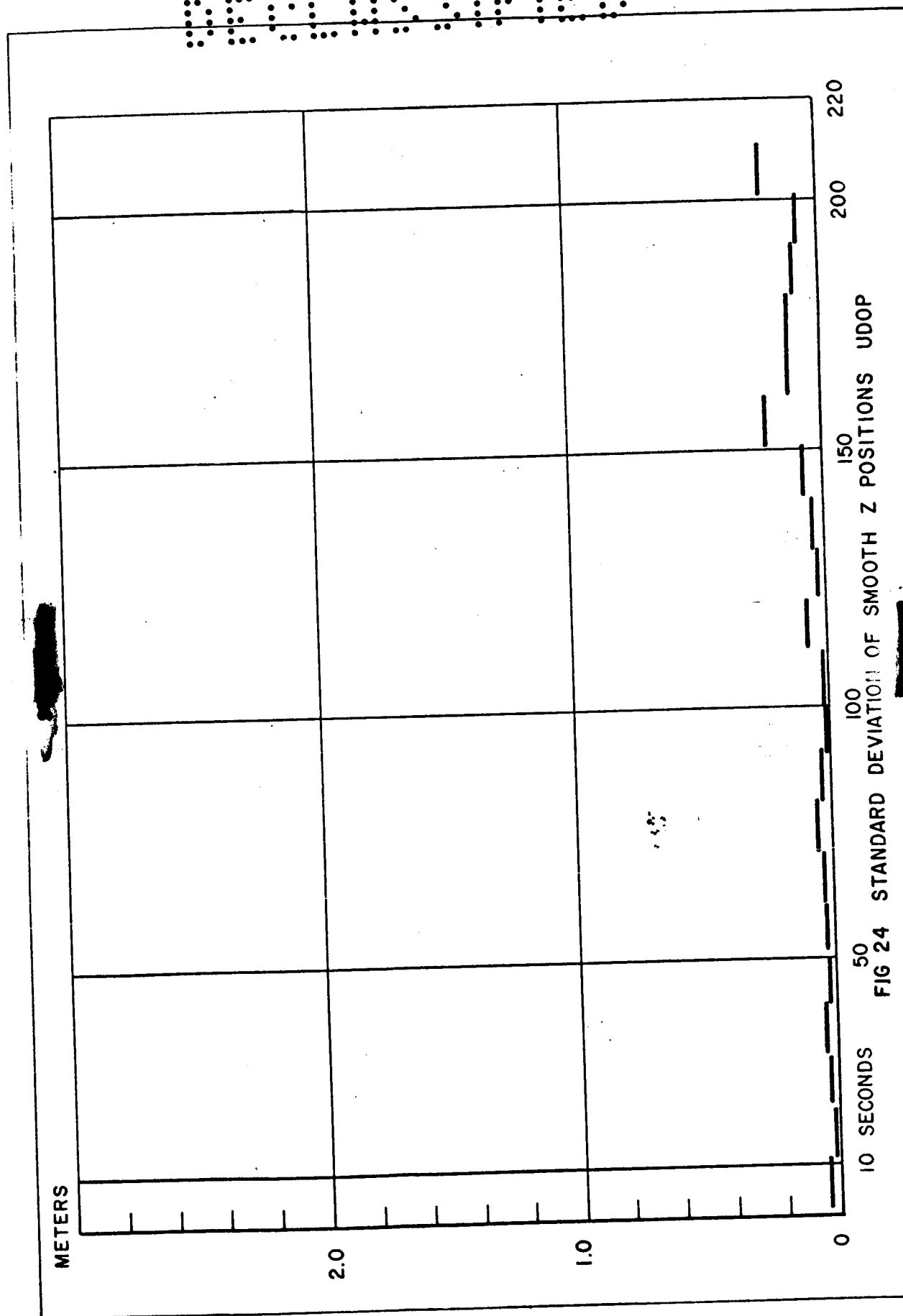


FIG 24 STANDARD DEVIATION OF SMOOTH Z POSITIONS UDOP

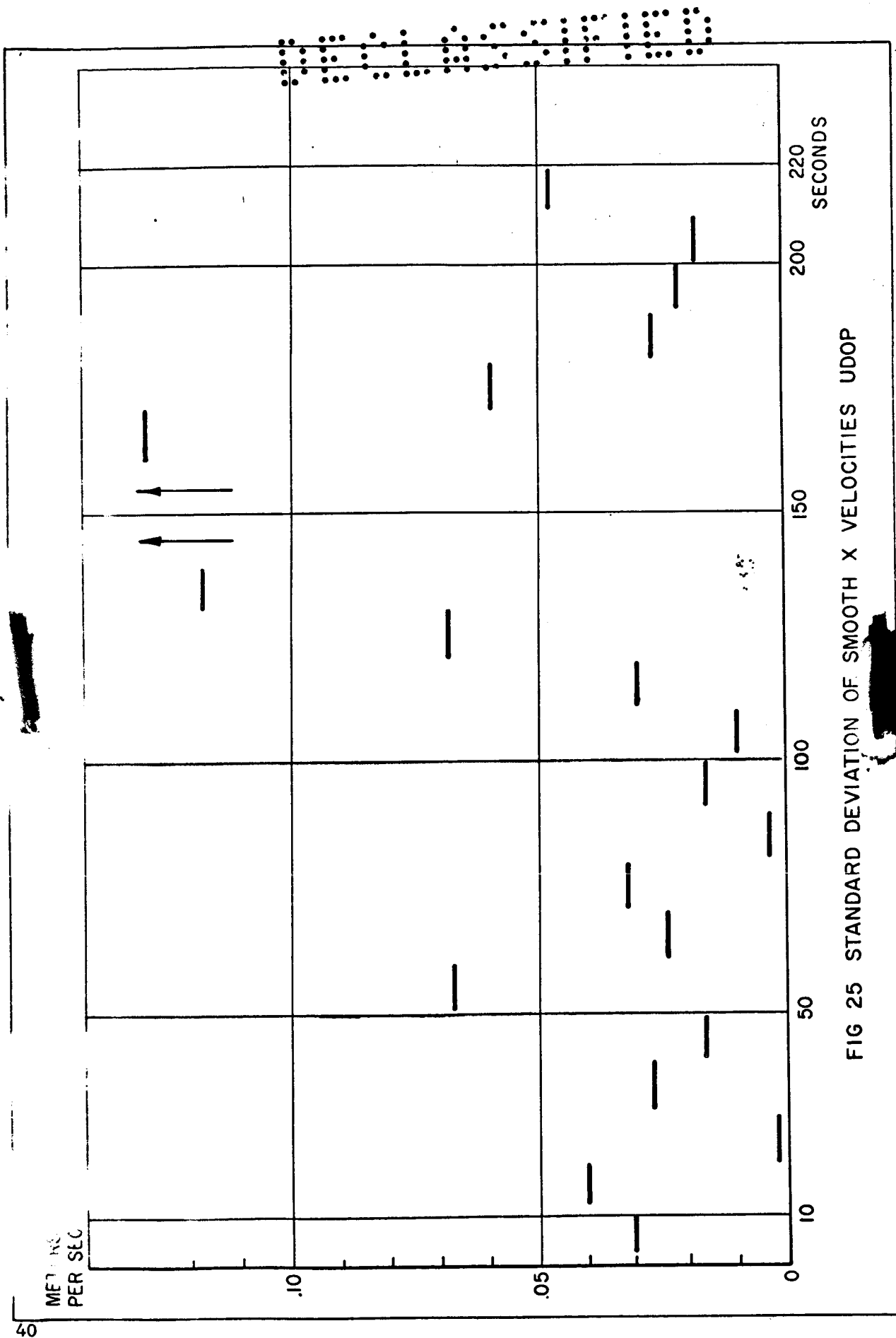
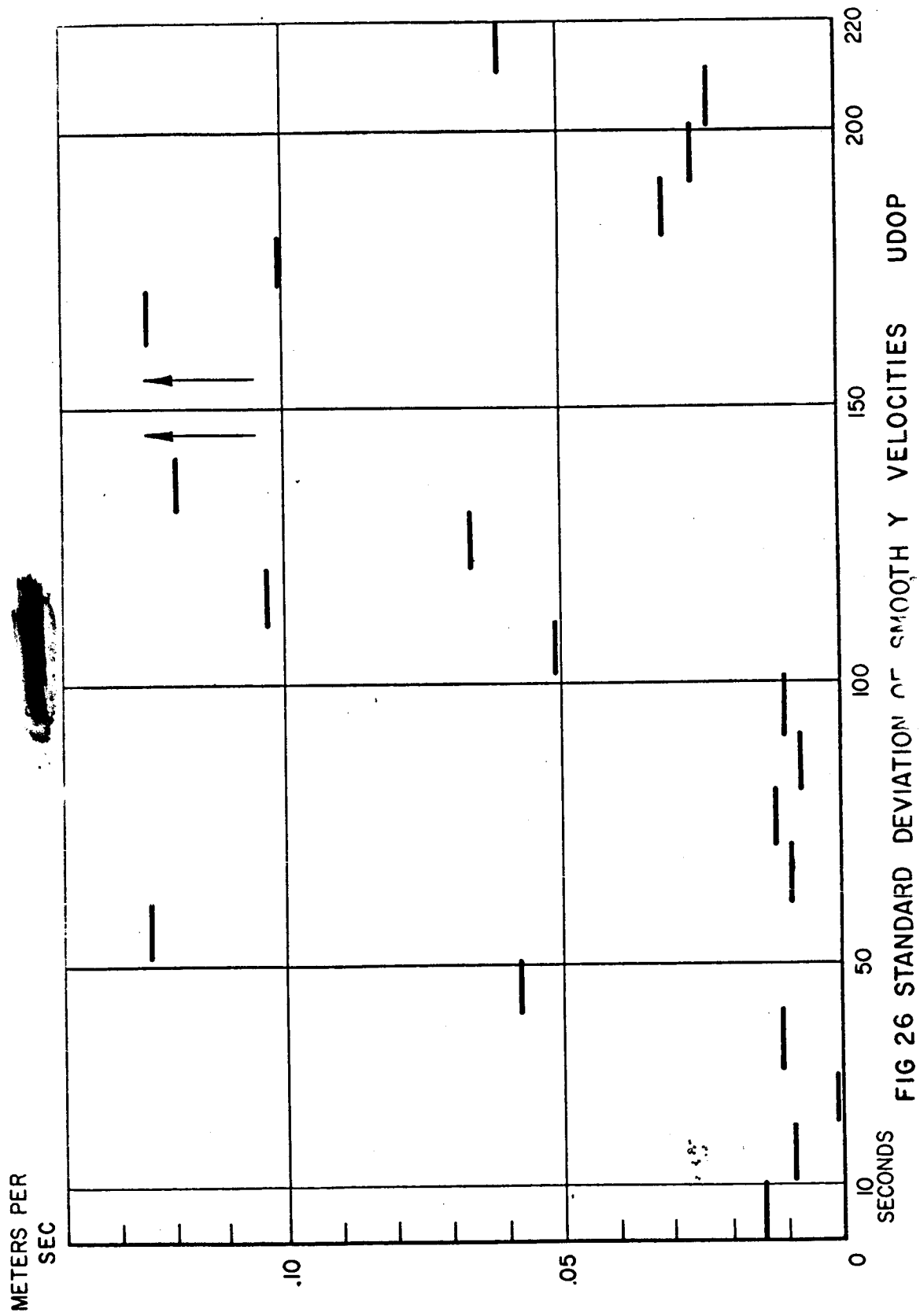


FIG 25 STANDARD DEVIATION OF SMOOTH X VELOCITIES UDOP

DECLASSIFIED



DECLASSIFIED

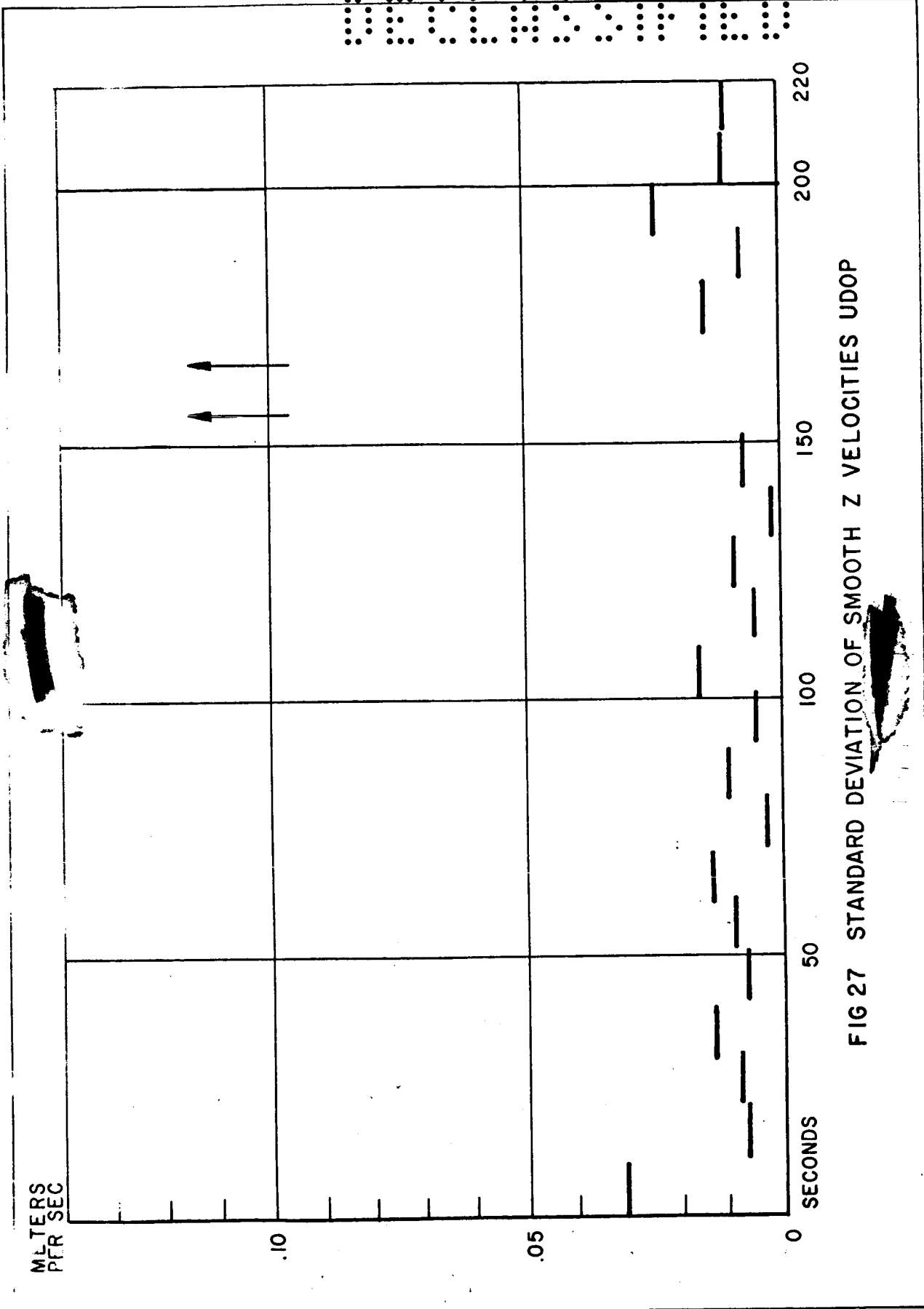


FIG 27 STANDARD DEVIATION OF SMOOTH Z VELOCITIES UDOP



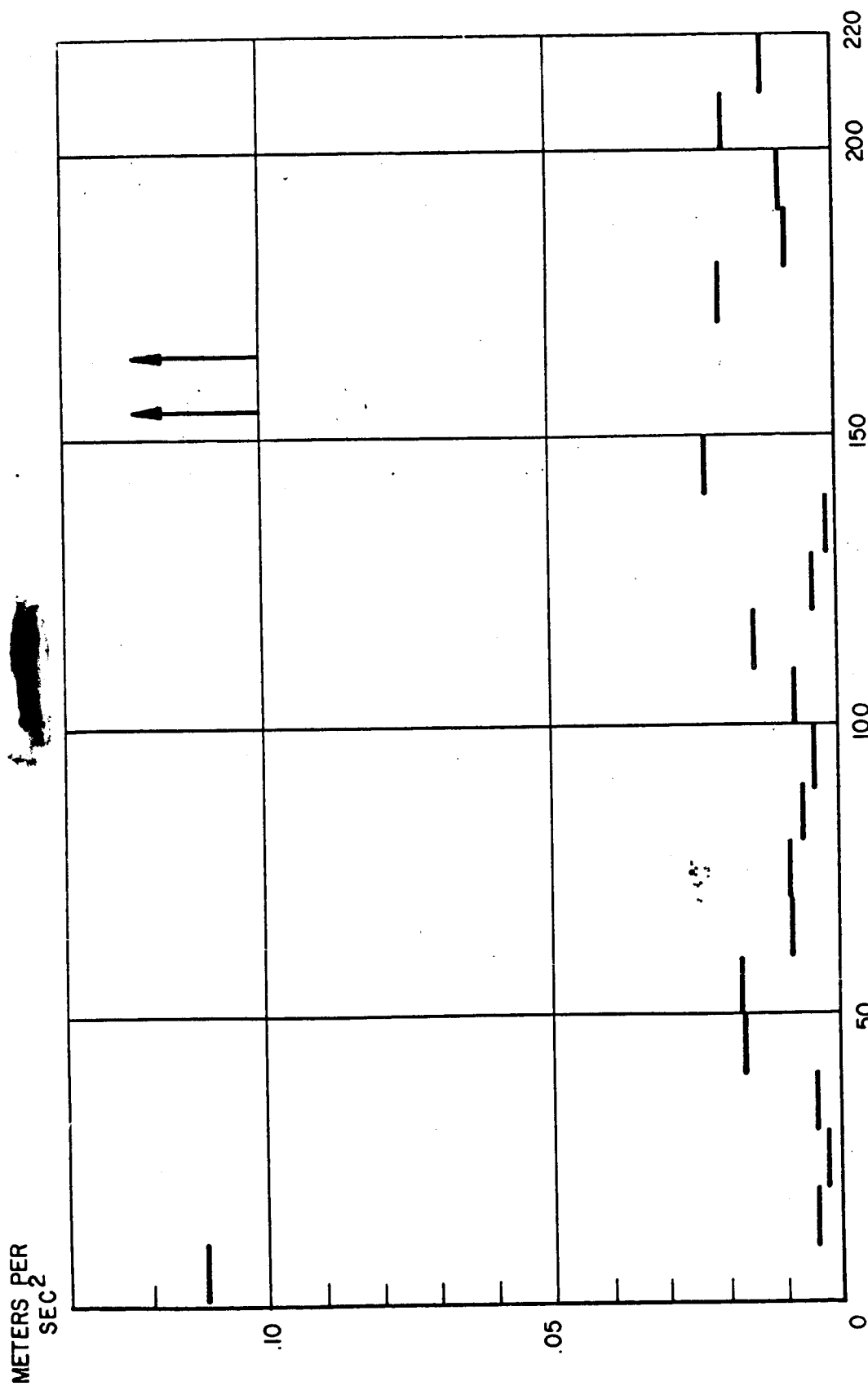


FIG 28 STANDARD DEVIATION OF SMOOTH X ACCELERATIONS UDOP

DECLASSIFIED

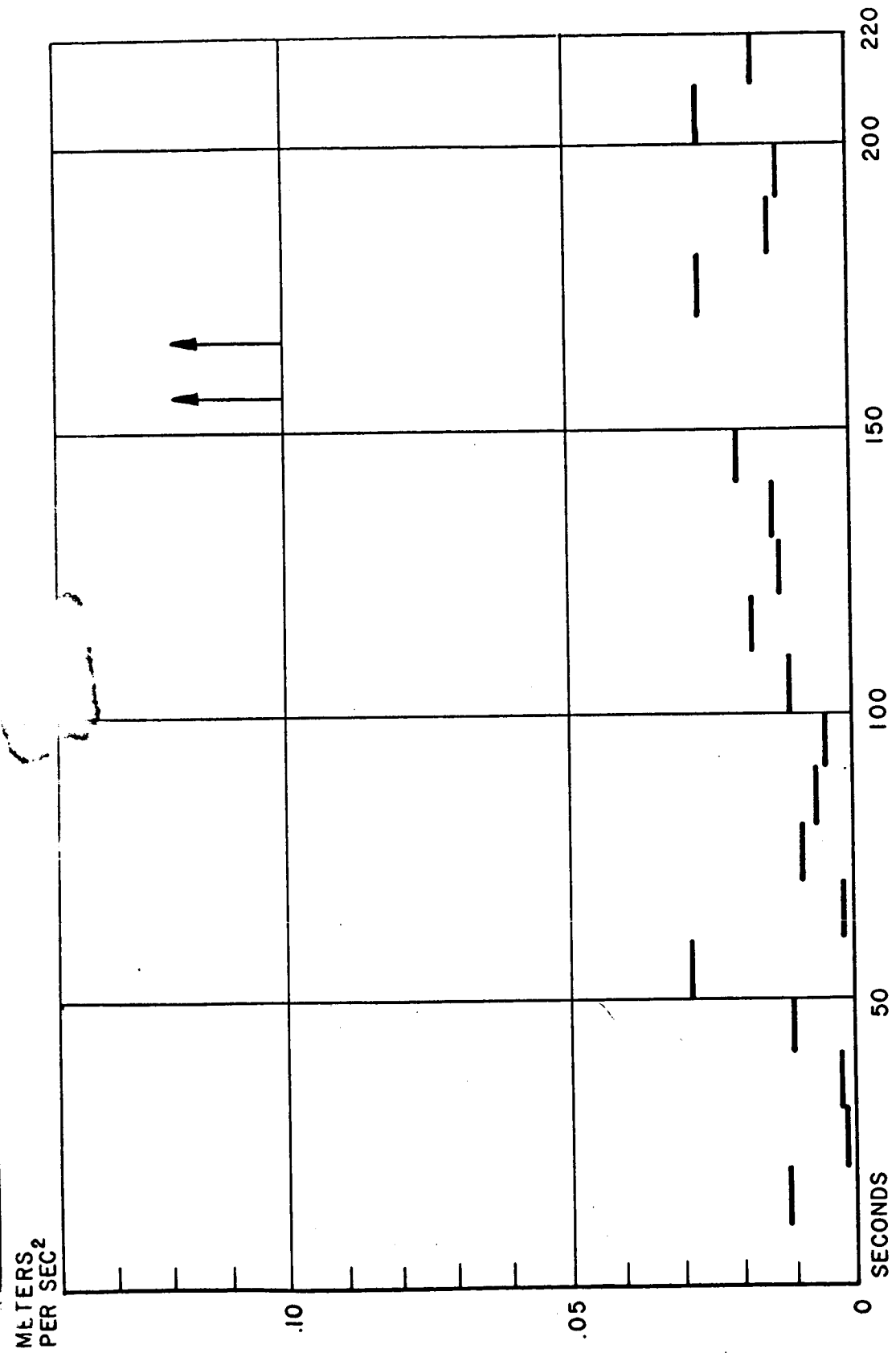


FIG 29 STANDARD DEVIATION OF SMOOTH Y ACCELERATION UDOP

DECLASSIFIED

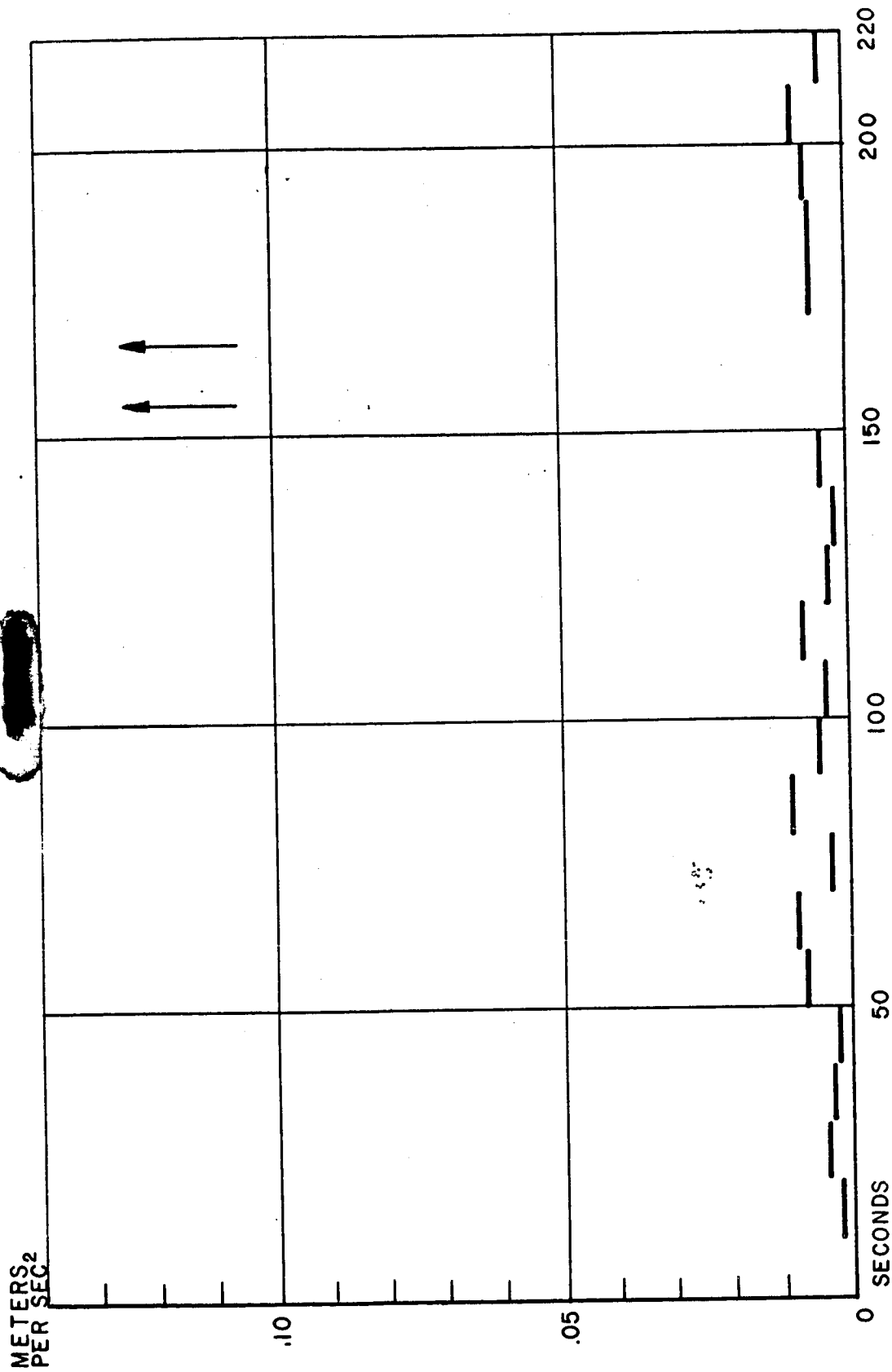


FIG 30 STANDARD DEVIATION OF SMOOTH Z ACCELERATIONS UDOP

DECLASSIFIED

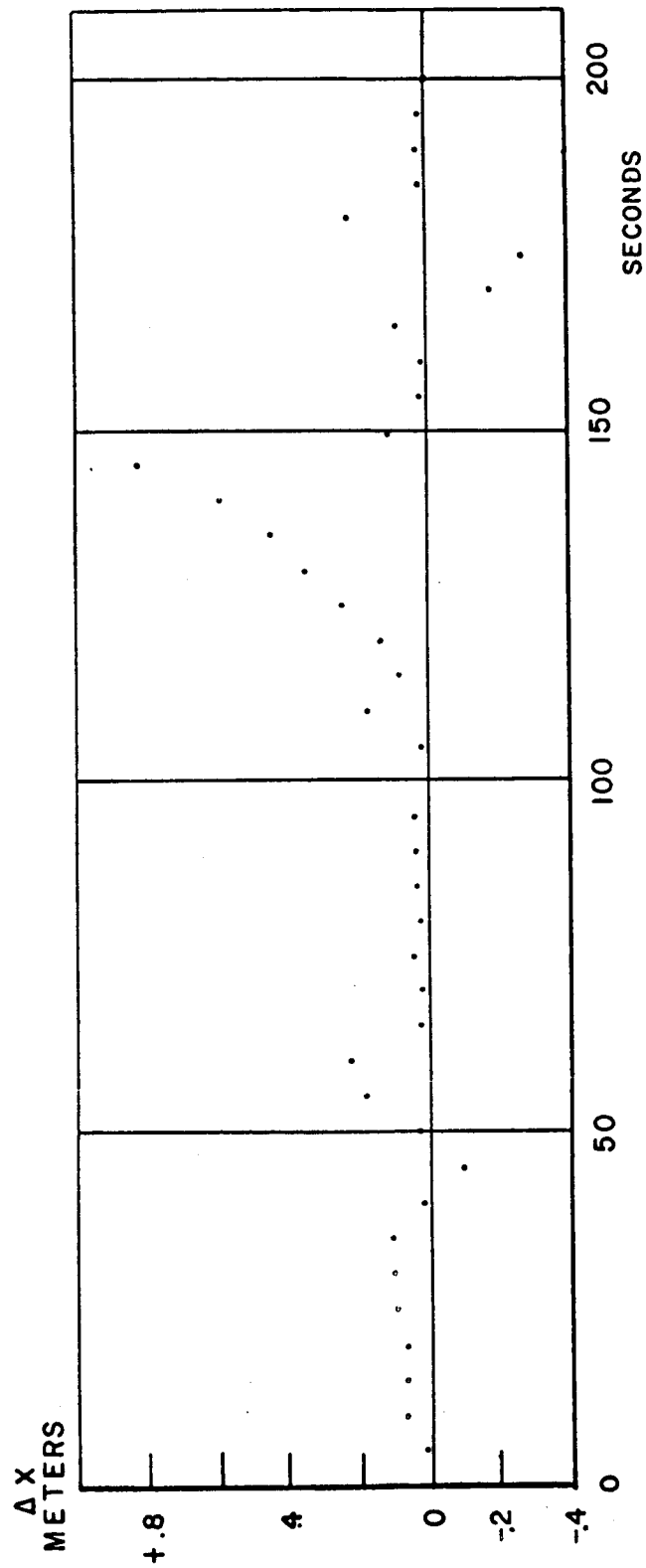


FIG 31 X POSITION ERROR DUE TO SMOOTHING

DECLASSIFIED

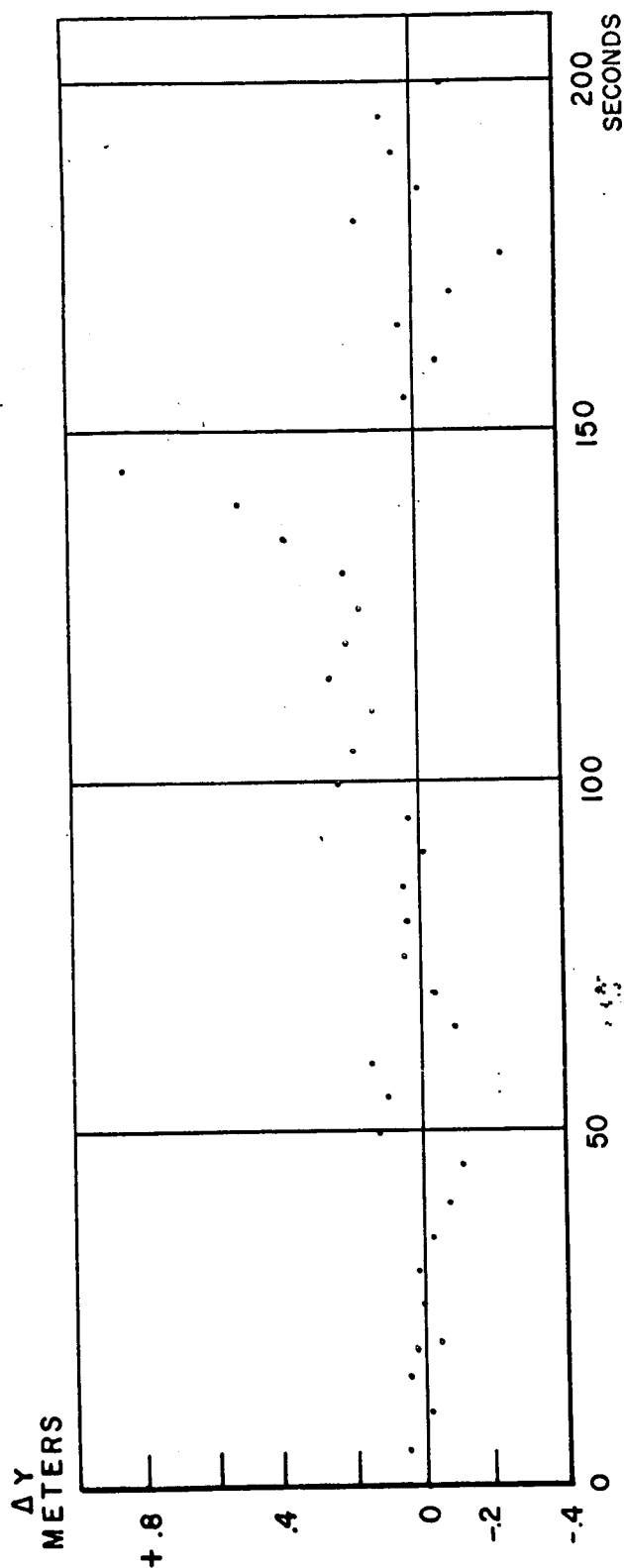


FIG 32 Y POSITION ERROR DUE TO SMOOTHING

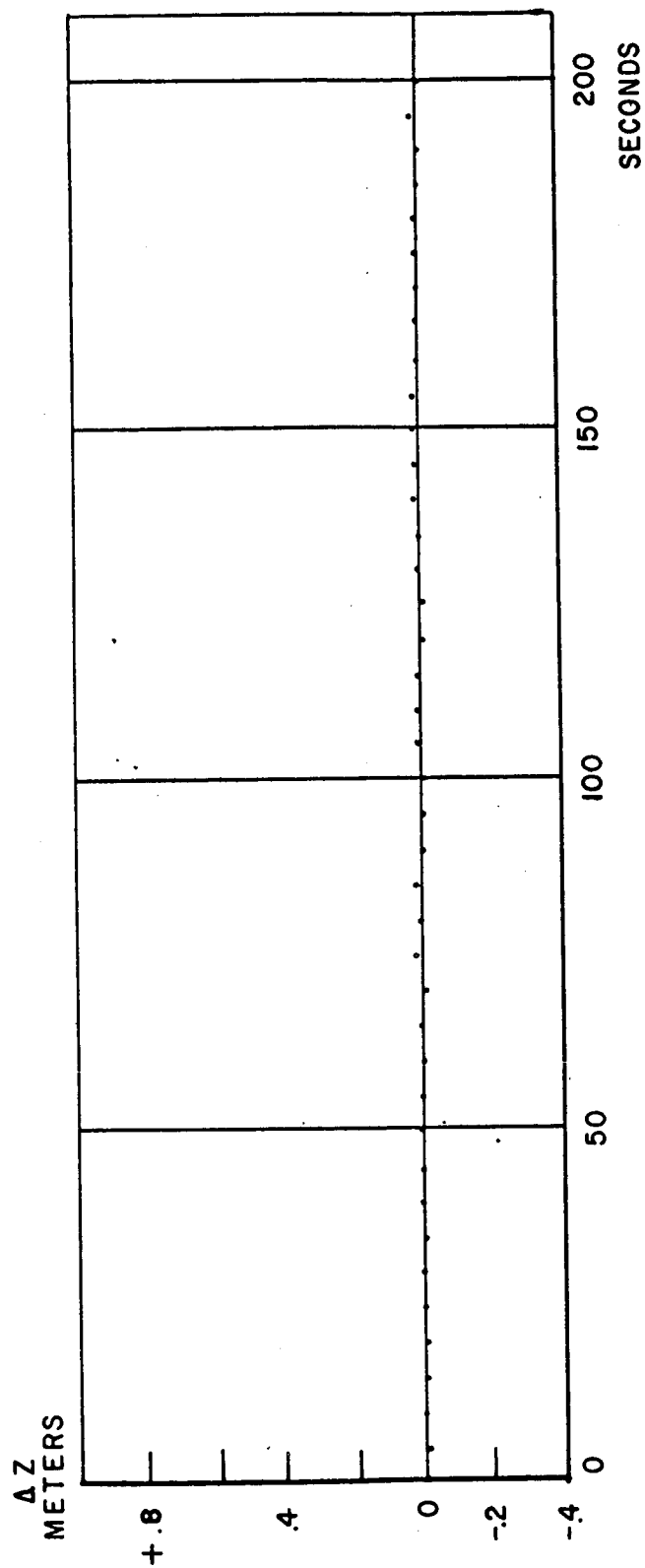


FIG 33 Z POSITION ERROR DUE TO SMOOTHING

DECLASSIFIED

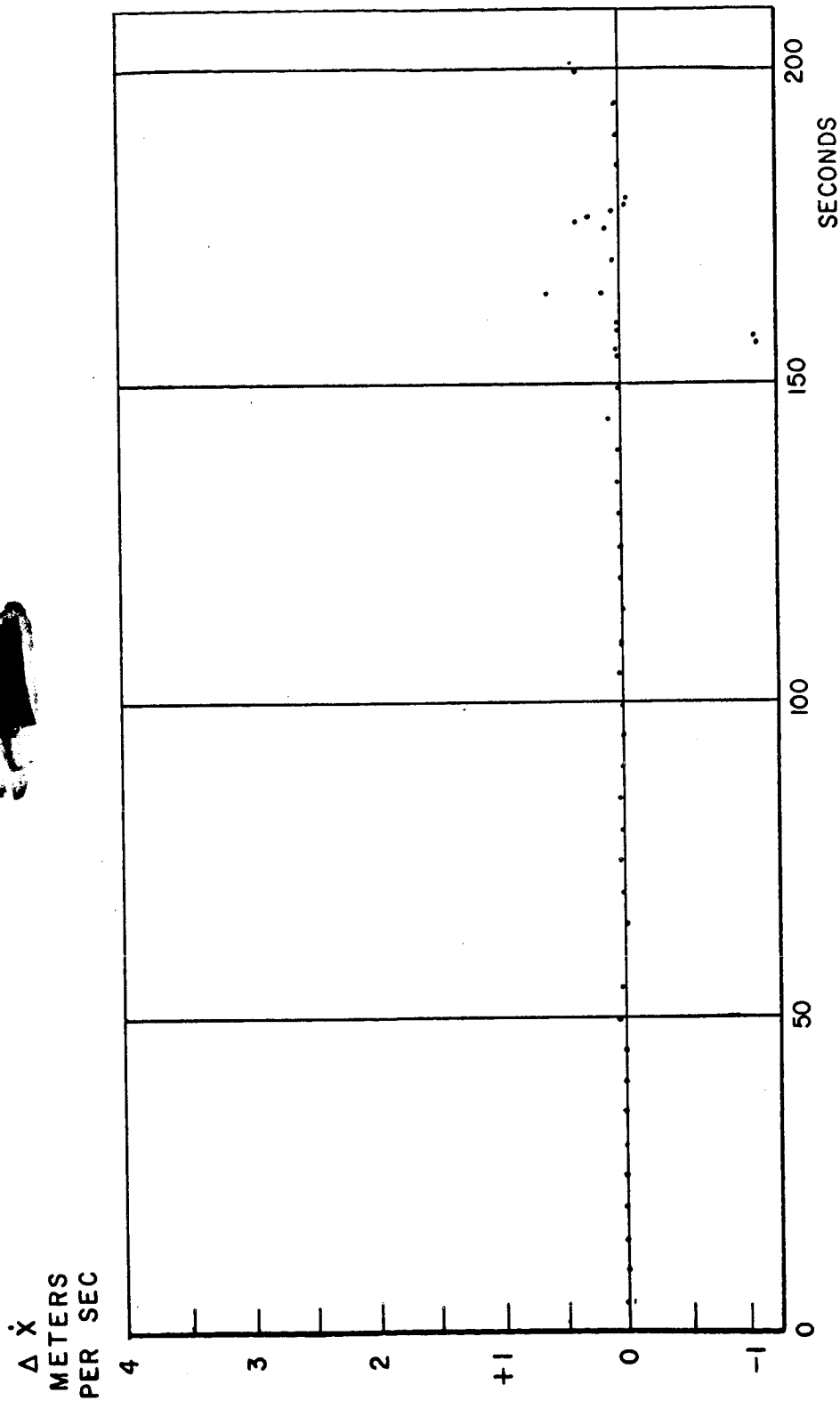


FIG 34 X VELOCITY ERROR DUE TO SMOOTHING

DECLASSIFIED

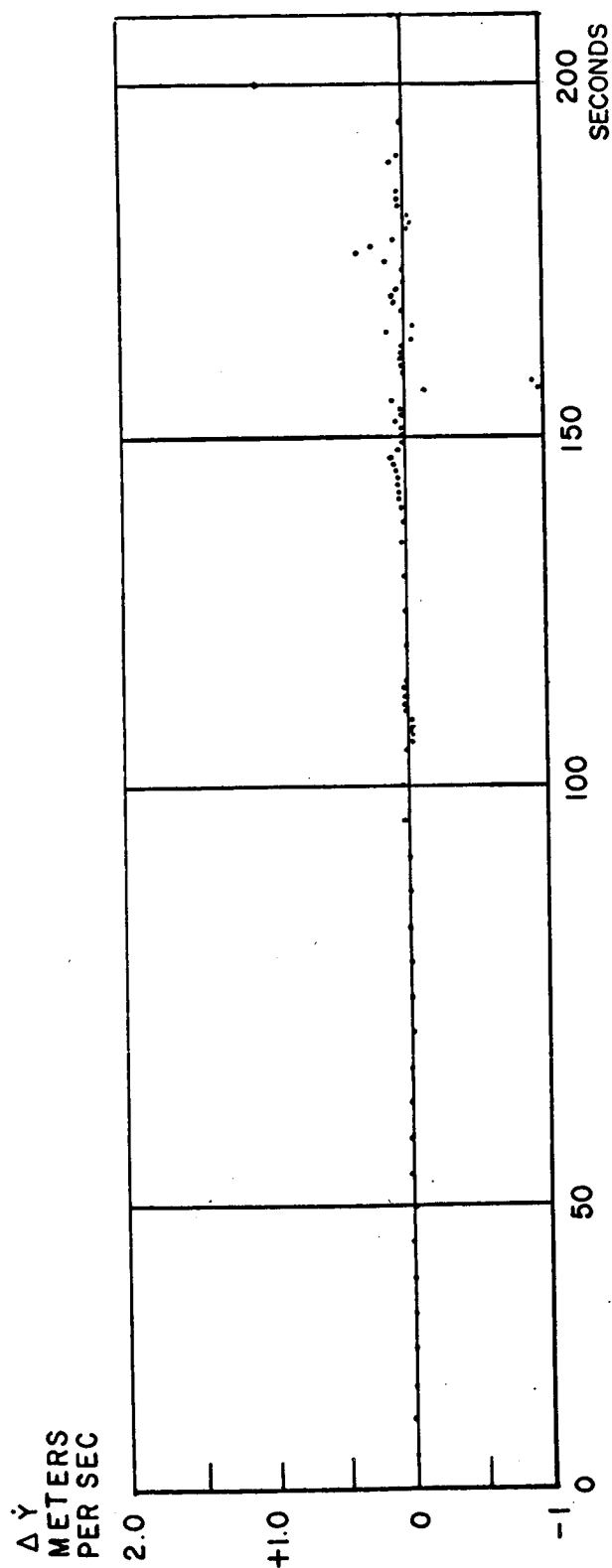


FIG 35 Y VELOCITY ERROR DUE TO SMOOTHING



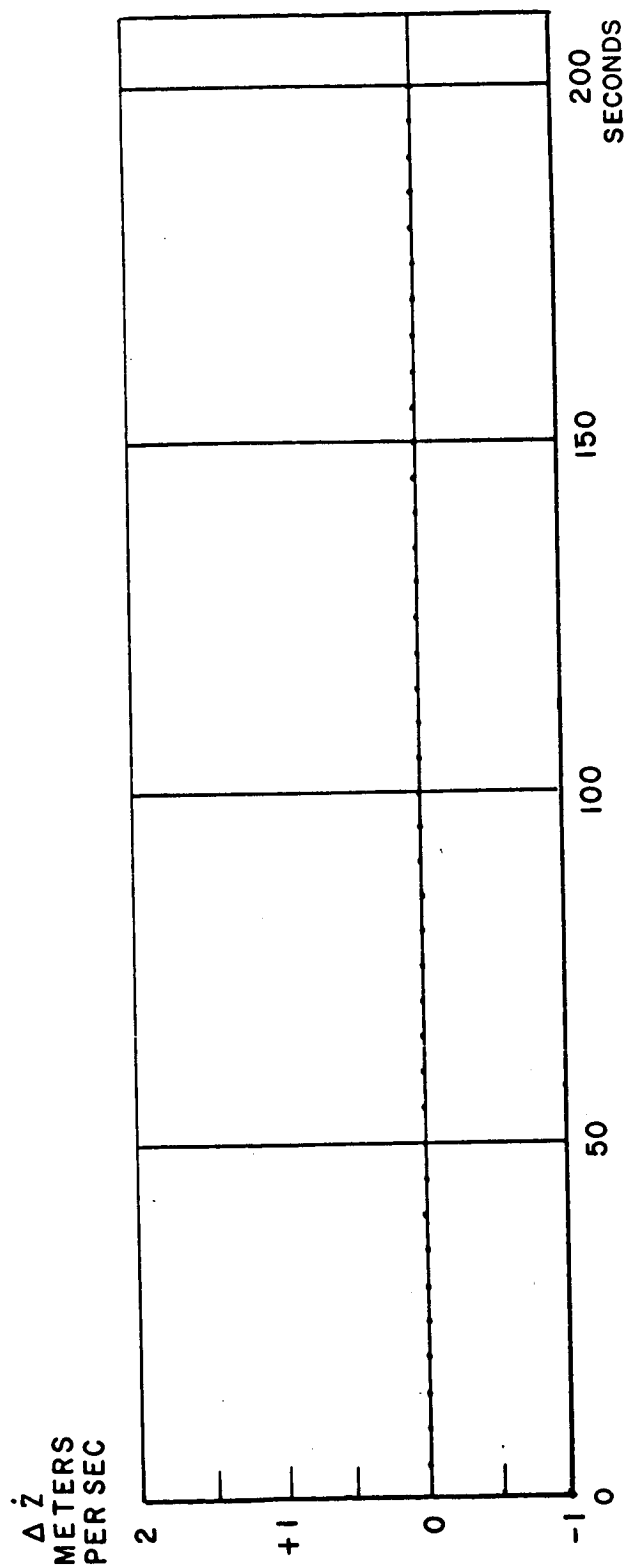


FIG 36 Z VELOCITY ERROR DUE TO SMOOTHING

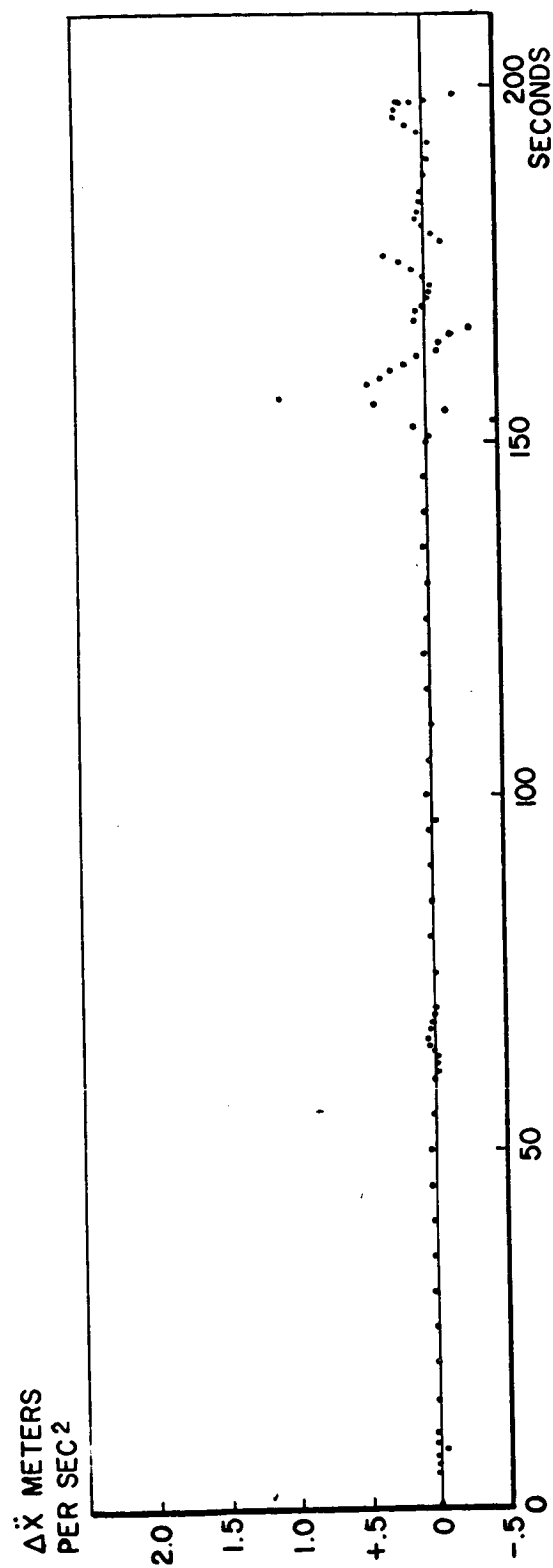


FIG. 37 X ACCELERATION ERROR DUE TO SMOOTHING

DECLASSIFIED

$\Delta \ddot{Y}$  METERS  
PER SEC<sup>2</sup>

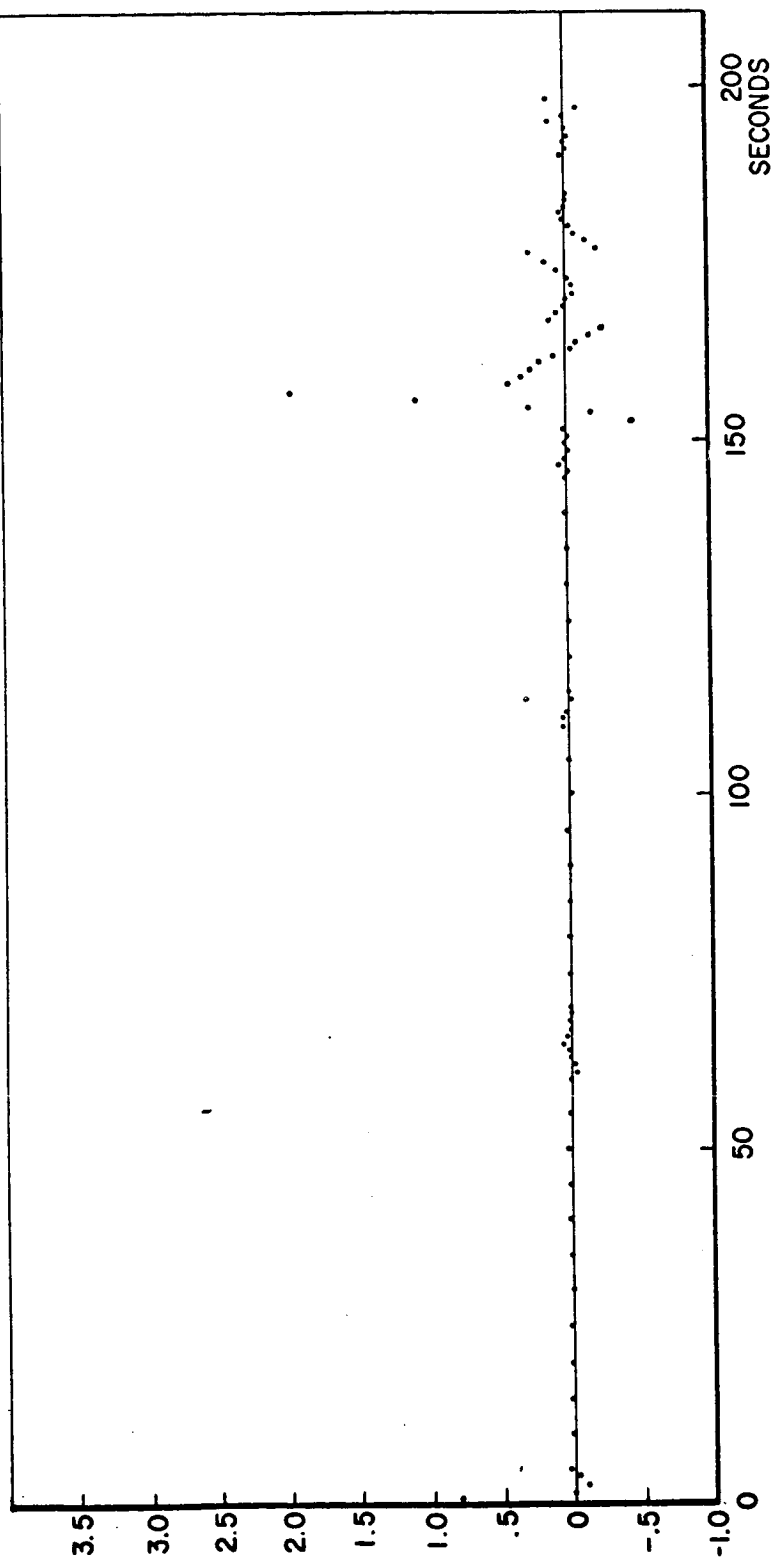


FIG. 38 Y ACCELERATION ERROR DUE TO SMOOTHING

SECRET

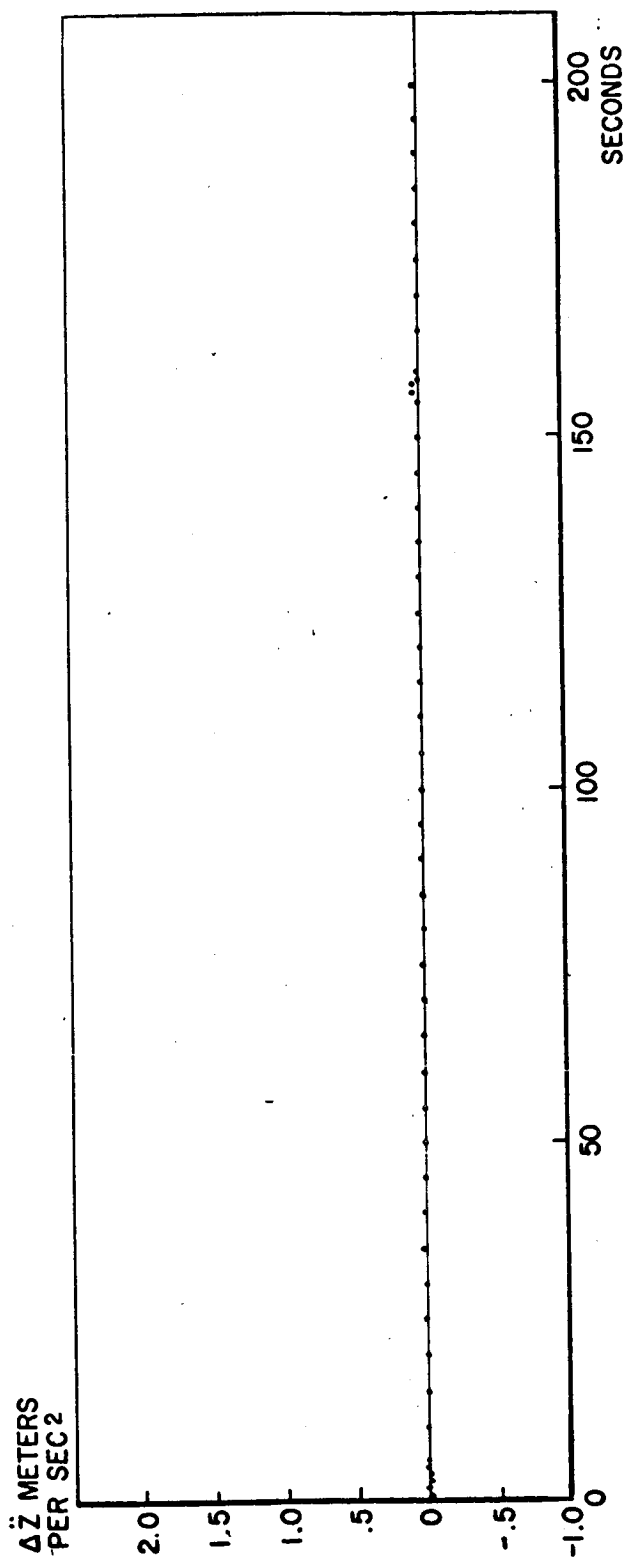



FIG. 39 Z ACCELERATION ERROR DUE TO SMOOTHING

DECLASSIFIED

(U) APPROVAL

MM-M-COMP-1-60

  
W. E. MOORE  
Chief, Data Reduction Branch

  
DR. HELMUT HOELZER  
Director, Computation Laboratory

(U) DISTRIBUTION:

M-DIR, Office of the Director, MSFC  
Attn: Director  
Deputy Director

M-COMP, Computation Division  
Attn: Dr. Hoelzer/Mr. Bradshaw  
Mr. Moore  
Mr. Aichele (3)  
Mr. Cochran  
Mr. Felder  
Mr. MacGowan (5)  
Mr. Anderson (5)  
Mr. Beard  
Mr. Whigham  
Mr. Peddycoart

M-AERO, Aeroballistics Division  
Attn: Dr. Geissler  
Dr. Speer  
Mr. Lindberg  
Mr. Fulmer (3)

M-LOD, Launch Operations Directorate  
Attn: Dr. Debus (2)  
Mr. Thoman (5)

M-PAT  
Attn: Mr. John Warden

M-MS-IP, Technical Documents Unit (8)